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OREDIGGER

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Volume 87, Issue 12 | THE VOICE OF THE COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES, A SUPERIOR EDUCATION IN APPLIED SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING | March 28, 2007

Governor Visit Mandates Role For Mines

Mike Stone
Staff Writer

The Colorado School of Mines band played the school fight song and a breeze blew across the crowd of nearly 200 spectators.

Governor Bill Ritter finished his tour of the Colorado School of Mines and gave a speech to the students, parents, and community members.

The address focused around Colorado's Energy Budget and the nation's need to expand more quickly into renewable energies.

Gov. Ritter started by offering memories of a national Governor's meeting he attended a short while ago.

"We determined that the world economy, in the future, will need great minds in science and mathematics. The Colorado School of Mines is a perfect example of how we can lead the world by following this path."

Throughout the speech, Ritter voiced gratitude to schools like CSM because they are leading the future industries with new discoveries every day.

Ritter expanded on the subject, saying: "The Energy Budget is both a National Security issue and an Economic Security issue. Colorado can become a leader in changing our dependency on carbon by setting an example for other states. It is both a national and a state issue."

"We determined that the world economy, in the future, will need great minds in science and mathematics. The Colorado School of Mines is a perfect example of how we can lead the world by following this path."

Efforts have already been put into process. Ritter announced that "a bill is on its way to my desk that has already passed the Colorado house…that will make 20% of all Colorado utilities be renewable by 2020."

After the speech, a forum was opened to the Governor and three questions were raised.

First, Ritter was asked if Mines could help in any way with Colorado's Energy Budget.

Ritter responded: "By being a leading energy research facility as Mines is. It is important to keep up good relations between these facilities and state offices."

Ritter also responded to a raise in higher education funding question put forth by Casey Morse, Student Body President.

"If Colorado were to put forth all the money necessary for every student seeking higher education this year, it would cost 850 million dollars and frankly, we just don't have the money. Believe me, we want to, but there's no way to achieve it right now."

Finally, Ritter was asked how Mines is to get a higher graduation rate, as it is currently graduating 65-70% of incoming students.

"There is a bill underway to help such efforts that will get students better acquainted with college starting in high school and even lower. This way we can ensure our future."

The forum went smoothly and was well received. As a closing, Ritter was given a Mines sweatshirt and blue Mining Hard Hat.

"I was very pleased with his visit," said Harold Cheuvront, Vice President and Dean of Students. "He made the time to come out here within the first six months of his term, he was genuinely attentive and interested, and he made us feel as if his being here was the most important thing to him at that point in time. Certainly, his focus on working with CSM on the State's energy economy is important to the School and to the State of Colorado."

There is an ongoing invitation for the Governor to return anytime he wishes to visit.

Courtesy Mike Stone/OREDIGGER

Colorado Governor Bill Ritter spoke to Mines students, staff, faculty, and interested public on Tuesday, March 20. Ritter talked about energy and the role of CSM in the development of renewable energy resources. He also answered questions from the crowd during the hour-long talk.

Courtesy
Marsha Williams

Governor Ritter took a tour of the CSM campus, met Marvin the Miner, and walked away with some Mines gear of his own, including a hard hat.

To Give, Not Forget

CSM Seniors Contribute To Their Soon-To-Be Alma Mater And Tradition With Senior Gift

Lily Giddings
Staff Reporter

As seniors prepare to say their final farewell to the Colorado School of Mines, many loose ends need to be tied up, much paperwork is required, and those last goodbyes must be said. One of the loose ends is the senior gift: seniors are asked to donate money to on-campus causes, such as the Arthur Lakes Library, or the Mines Fund.

Few people know that costs listed on the tuition bill they receive only cover a portion of their educational experience. The rest of the money comes from generous donations from alumni, and the money that comes from the Mines Fund.

"We hope that by encouraging seniors to donate money to benefit Mines, we are teaching them to be good alumni" says Senior Gift Publicity Chair, Regina Hutchings. By donating money, students are helping support other students through scholarships, internships, and study-abroad opportunities.

Seniors are not the only donors; President Bill Scoggins will be matching the donations, up to a value of one thousand dollars.

Aside from this worthy cause, seniors will be creating a mural: making handprints on a canvas, which will be displayed in an undetermined spot on campus. The theme for this year's Senior Gift is "Make Your Mark" so seniors can leave their mark in a physical, as well as conceptual, sense.

Students who contribute at a "leadership level" will also be rewarded, with gifts from Book & Brew, the Mines Bookstore, and Blue Canyon Bar & Grill. Make your donation at the Student Activities Office, through the mail, or online at http://www.oia.mines.edu/seniorgift.

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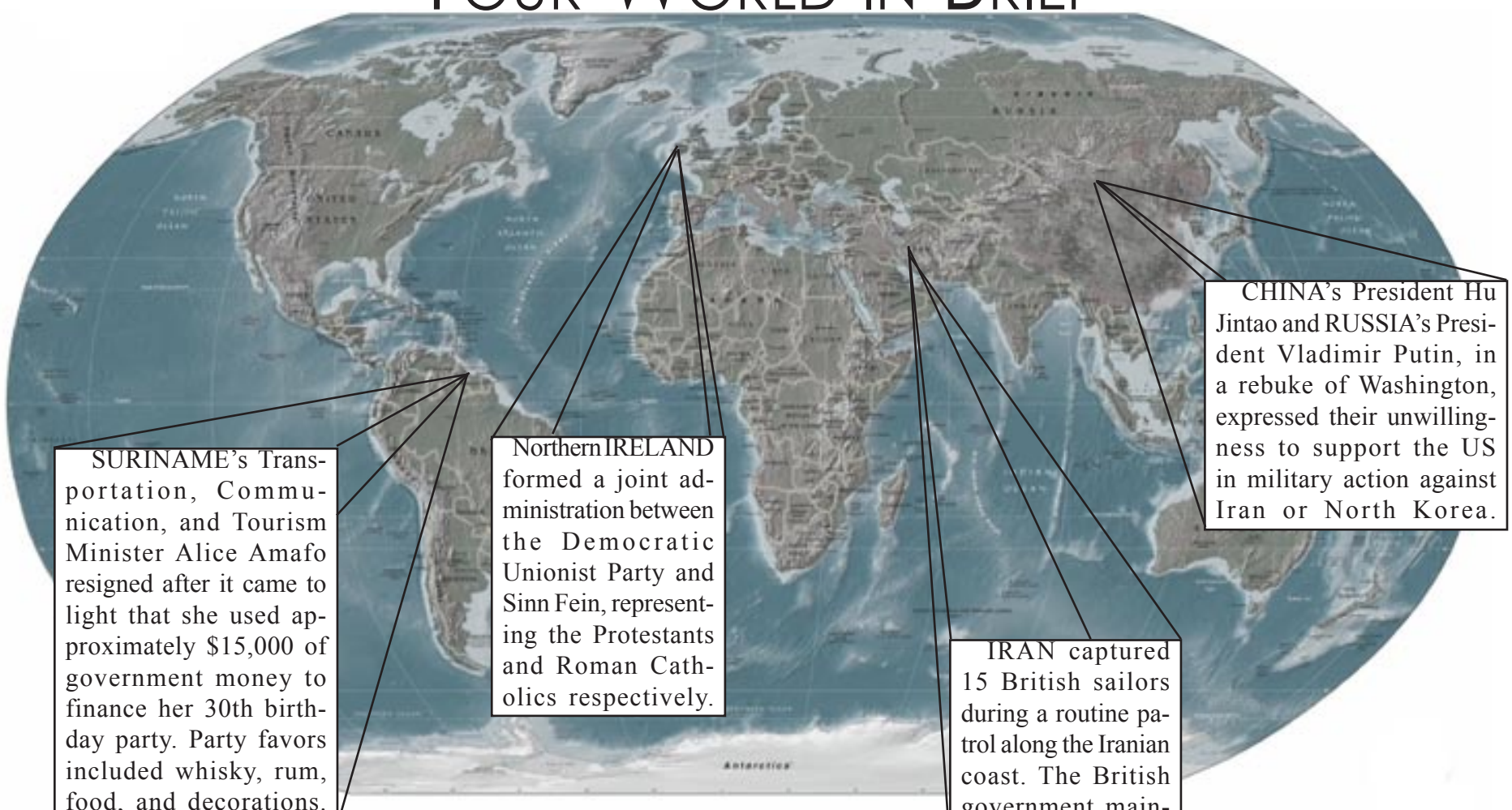
Your World in Brief



Goodling to Take Fifth

"Attorneygate" Scandal Grips DC

Shaemus Gleason
Editor in Chief

The scandal that has been referred to as "Attorneygate" took an interesting turn on Monday with the revelation that Monica Goodling, a justice department official intimately involved in the firing of the eight US attorneys in question will plead the fifth (protection against self incrimination) during her sworn testimony in front of the senate judiciary committee March 29th.

Mrs. Goodling by no means is the only or most senior Bush administration official implicated in this widening scandal. Others publicly eyed by the judiciary committee to testify are Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, Deputy Attorney General Paul McNulty, Deputy White House Chief of Staff Karl Rove and White House Counsel Harriet Miers.

White House Deputy Chief of Staff Karl Rove
Courtesy Wikipedia

Much of the controversy revolves around e-mails obtained by different news outlets detailing exchanges between White House officials and officials at the Department of Justice. They carried political overtones as to the motives for the firing, not limited to a White house counsel describing some of the US attorneys as "loyal Bushies" and suggestions for removal of US attorneys who had "chafed against administration initiatives," by Chief of Staff to the Attorney General Kyle Sampson.

The Bush administration has claimed that Miers and Rove do not have to testify because they are protected by executive privilege. But Bush has offered to send them over to have a conversation with the Judiciary Committee in a closed room, with no transcript.

The eight former US attorneys in questions are H.E. Cummins III from the Eastern District of Kansas, Kevin V. Ryan from the Northern District of California, Daniel Bogden from the District of Nevada, Carol Lam From the Southern District of California, David Inglesias from the District of New Mexico, Paul K. Charlton of the District of Arizona, John McKay from the Western District of Washington and Margaret Chiara from the Western District of Michigan.

See the Fool's Gold Section For A Satirical View Of Mines
Pg. 18

Public Safety Announcement

The Department of Public Safety and its members would like for everyone to have a good time during E-Days 2006. Additionally, our wish is for everyone to be safe while they are enjoying the celebrations.

For the protection of everyone, Police Officers from the Public Safety Department will have a presence at all events. Ê We will be available to assist those in need, and to enforce the law, as well as Campus Rules and Regulations, if necessary. Ê Just a reminder, the underage drinking Laws and Rules cannot be suspended during E-Days.Ê We ask that each of you be aware of and responsible for your actions and those of your guests. Always remember to respect the rights of others.

Also, please know that the construction sites on campus are the private property of the contractors and it is unlawful to trespass inside their designated areas without proper authorization from that contractor.

Public Safety Police Officers are on duty 24/7 and may be contacted by calling extension 3333, or (303) 273-3333.Ê Our offices are located at 1812 Illinois, the northwest corner of Illinois and 19th street.Ê Please feel free to stop by anytime.

If you are going to be driving to off-campus parties and functions, remember to appoint a designated driver in advance. If you have any questions, please contact us right away.

Sincerely,
Richard Boyd, Chief of Police/Director
CSM Department of Public Safety

What's Your Beef With Mines?

ASCSM President Casey Morse Answers Your Questions

Beef:
I hate Saturday finals!
Response:
In order to give everyone their finals, we absolutely need 5 days. In fact finals go on from 8:00 am until 9:00 pm on all 5 days. Due to classroom space limitations and the need for graduation on that following Friday, the first day of finals must start on that Saturday. The students worked very hard to get Dead Day to offset the Saturday finals. Without Dead Day, we would still have to take finals either on Saturday or on Dead Day.

Beef:
Can't add money to my Blastercard online anymore.
Response:
The website used for managing your Blastercard is currently not operating. There will be a new website soon that you can use to manage your accounts online.

Beef:
Physics sucks ass
Response:
I agree. Unfortunately, it is required for ABET accreditation. The CAPA help sessions are what got me through Physics. Just fight through it and never look back.

Beef:
Why are the first two years "weed-out" classes? Why are more people getting accepted?
Response:
The first two years are not technically "weed-out" classes. They are designed to ensure the students get a strong grasp of the required core courses. They might seem like "weed-out" classes because the information is not typically all that intriguing. Hopefully, the information you learn becomes more interesting as you progress through your curriculum, and it offsets the fact that the courses actually get more difficult. As far as admissions goes, the school has kept admissions at a constant for the past couple years because we don't have the facilities for more students. This year an additional 2,000 students have applied compared to last year, and therefore admissions standards are actually increasing.

Beef:
Why do the guys keep complaining about the ratio and the quality of girls here? It gets the girls pretty angry! They could have gone to another school if they just wanted to pick up girls.
Response:
In choosing this world-class engineering institution, students are typically placing more emphasis on their career path than their social life. Fortunately, the school does offer many programs that encourage social activity through the Mines Activity Council and our 130+ clubs and organizations. Additionally, we are conveniently located in an area of the country that is surrounded by many other higher education institutions. For the good nature of all of us (males and females alike), get out and explore before complaining.

Beef:
Why is E-Days not the first weekend in April this year? Also, why isn't there a lacrosse or rugby game during E-Days this year?
Response:
We must make sure that E-Days does not conflict with Easter or the EIT's every year. It has conveniently fallen the first weekend of April for the past several years, but that was not possible this year. The lacrosse and rugby teams do not specifically schedule their games as E-Days events. Again, that was just a coincidence in the past.

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<< translation >>

Check out www.oredigger.net

Correction From March 7 Issue

There were two factual errors in the article entitled "FE Meets Biology." Bioengineering classes have been offered on campus since 2000 and have been offered every semester since 2001. None of the bioengineering classes are taught at Red Rocks. The Oredigger apologies for these errors.

Histor-E-Days

Chris Phillips
Business Manager

E-Days is coming up in a couple of days, and it has been noticed by several members of the campus community that no one really knows the history of E-Days. As several students so aptly put it, "I never really thought about it."

Definition: E-Days – Short for Engineering Days. Weekend every year in late March or early April when the Colorado School of Mines' community comes together for a weekend of fireworks, comedians, events, and other sorts of all-around "good" fun that will be remembered (sort of…) for years to come.

The first E-Day was on Jan. 29, 1927 and was put on by the various departments and classes. This day, though, was far from the E-Days celebration that many students know and love today. The events included speakers given by engineers from the Colorado Engineering Council, tours of campus, a varsity basketball game, and a dance hosted by the sophomore class.

The first E-Day proved to be a tremendous success. State legislators asked for a presentation at the state capitol, and CSM decided to attempt to have one the next semester. E-Day #2 was originally scheduled to be sometime in late October 1927, but did not occur until December 9 of the same year. This E-Day was unofficially marked as a "failure" due to the weather and the fact that the students lacked spirit, but the tradition of having an annual E-Day had been established.

Over the years, E-Days grew into what CSM knows it as today. E-Days hosted Career Day for a number of years, but this changed as "beer" and "E-Days" became better and better friends. Also, the exhibits changed into activities such as the mining competitions, Oil Field Olympics, and various building contests (trebuchet, cardboard boat, etc.).

There is some mystery surrounding the Ore Cart Pull that is held on Friday morning. The earliest record that was able to be found of a reference to this was sometime in the late 1970's. This tradition has continued through the years, and is traditionally where student body election results are announced, especially when E-Days falls later in April. Another Ore Cart Pull tradition that has fallen to the wayside is the "first cup of beer." While the tradition was still active, the governor would end his proclamation by drinking the "first cup of beer" for that year's E-Days celebration.

"Another Ore Cart Pull tradition that has fallen to the wayside is the 'first cup of beer.'"

So, with a new sense of what E-Days was in the past, the Oredigger invites you to drink a glass of _____ (insert beverage of choice) and help carry it into the future. Have fun and

The Oredigger wishes you a safe and fun E-Days!

What Resides Beneath

Geophysics Professor Supports Students

Zach Aman
Editorials Editor

In the catacombs of the Green Center resides Dr. Gary Olhoeft, cited as one of the most experienced minds at Mines.

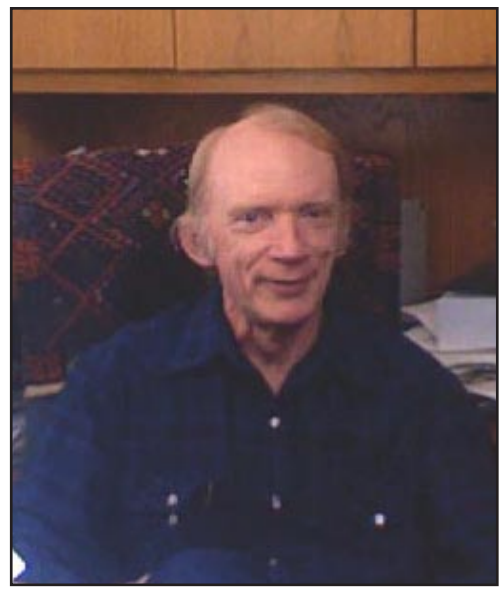
"He's one of the most brilliant instructors I've ever had," said an anonymous student. "I truly enjoy learning about his experiences and listening to his lectures."

In an interview, Dr. Olhoeft said; "While I was at the USGS, I always had one or two students from Mines that worked with me. I've always been teaching, even though that wasn't the job title I came over here with. One of the things I like here is that I learn as much from the students as I teach them."

Instead of focusing on which facts and figures he's conveying to his students, Dr. Olhoeft stresses; "It's the process that I'm interested in teaching."

As a professor in the Geophysics Department at Mines, Dr. Olhoeft teaches both undergraduate and graduate-level courses, including Materials of the Earth, Advanced Electrical and Electromagnetic Methods, Near Surface Field Methods, Advanced Electrical and Electromagnetic Exploration: Ground Penetrating Radar, and Advanced Electrical and Electromagnetic Exploration: Complex Resistively.

When asked what most enjoys about his department, Dr. Olhoeft said; "We have a lot of really good people here. The faculty is very experienced. They've gone out and worked and they bring that experience back and share it with the students. We're a small department that has lots of opportunity for one-on-one contact."



Zach Aman/ Oredigger
Communication and experience help Dr. Olhoeft to be admired by his students.

Additionally, Dr. Olhoeft takes a very unique approach toward communication with his students. "When my students need me, they can get a hold of me – they have my cell phone, home phone, and office phone. The instructions are: 'when you need me, call me.' Every problem can impact when a student graduates and we've got to be able to help them."

Dr. Olhoeft is an alumnus of both the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the University of Toronto. "I've been lucky – I've traveled all over the world," he said. "You name it, I've done it." Dr. Olhoeft also reported that, of every world location he's visited, New Zealand is his favorite; "It's a lot like Colorado but with an ocean."

Other than his work in geophysics, Dr. Olhoeft occupies his time with garden-scale trains and photography. When asked about the single largest area of improvement for the current generation, he said; "Communicate with each other. Most of the problems people have are failures to communicate."

Army and Air Force ROTC

Reserve Officers Get Paid To Go To School

Konrad Klett
Science and Tech Editor

The Reserve Officer Training Corps, or ROTC, as it is commonly known, is a college based program which produces sixty percent of officers in the armed forces and seventy five percent of all army officers.

The Army, Navy, and Air Force all have ROTC programs. The Coast Guard has only a Junior ROTC program. While the Marines do not explicitly have a ROTC program, they are a part of the Navy and they also have an officer training program during the summer. The Marines do have a booth on career day for more information.

ROTC started in 1862 with the Morril Act. The first Air ROTC began between 1920 and 1923 at Berkeley. Of course since Colorado is land locked, we have Air Force and Army ROTC but not Navy here at CSM. Until the 1960's ROTC was mandatory at many colleges for all male students; but the changing view of war in the US, especially during the Vietnam War, caused ROTC to become completely voluntary.

Students in either Army or Air Force ROTC are known as cadets during their school years but become second lieutenants (the lowest officer ranking) once they start their service after graduation.

Army ROTC has Military Science I and II on Monday and Wednesday and Leadership Laboratory on Thursdays. Physical training takes place Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 6am in the Field House.

Army cadets go to something called Basic Training during the summer between junior and senior year. Air Assault (rappelling out of helicopters) or Airborne (jumping out of planes) as well as Army internships may also be attended during summer.

> "Until the 1960's ROTC was mandatory at many colleges for all male students; but the changing view of war in the US, especially during the Vietnam War, caused ROTC to become completely voluntary."

ROTC is intended to hone you leadership skills, while the physical training pushes your mental and physical ability. Twice a year they have a Field Training Exercise (FTX), during which the cadets go to the Air Force Academy and campout while shooting M-16's and attending obstacle and confidence courses.

The Air Force program has AF I and II on Tuesday and Leadership Laboratory on Thursdays. Physical training takes place at 4pm on Mondays and 6am on Tuesdays.

The Air Force also has Basic Training but between sophomore and junior year. In addition, cadets can attend shadow during any summer programs in which they can shadow a preferred career in the Air Force.

Once a semester, cadets do a mock employment. Service requirement for both programs is four years active and four years inactive reserve or guard. The following is summary of the monetary assistance offered by being a part of ROTC.

Army
Freshman: Full Tuition, $250 per month, $450 for books per semester
Sophomore: Full Tuition, $350 per month, $450 for books per semester
Junior: Full Tuition, $450 per month, $450 for books per semester
Senior: Full Tuition, $550 per month, $450 for books per semester

Air Force
Freshman: Full Tuition, $250 per month, $400 for books per semester
Sophomore: Full Tuition, $300 per month, $400 for books per semester
Junior: Full Tuition, $350 per month, $400 for books per semester
Senior: Full Tuition, $400 per month, $400 for books per semester

Chocolate Beer?

Chris Phillips
Business Manager

Golden City Brewery (aka "Golden's Second Largest Brewery"), currently has a Chocolate Raspberry Lager that they are serving. I recently went down to the brewery with a friend for a pitcher of this interestingly flavored beer, and I have to say that I was pretty impressed – here's why:

Appearance – This beer looks different than any lager I've seen before because of the color. It's dark brown in color with a dark raspberry red that can be seen in the edges. The carbonation looked light to medium, and the beer poured with slightly over one finger of head (even with little to no glass tilt) that disappears after about a minute.

Quick Facts:
Brewer – Golden City Brewery
Style – Lager
Alcohol Content–6.2% by volume

Smell – You can definitely smell the raspberries in this one. I also got semi-sweet chocolate in the smell. The hops were very light in the smell – almost non-existent.

Taste – The taste of this beer depends on where you are in the pitcher. At the top, the taste of the bittering hops is definitely present with the first taste (very surprising based on the smell!). As the pitcher emptied, I noticed that the hops flavor diminished significantly. The raspberry was an undertone that overcame the taste of the hops in glasses from the top part of the pitcher. This flavor became the first flavor as you got towards the bottom. Furthermore, the chocolate served as a slight undertone throughout the beer, and it became more prominent as the end of the pitcher neared. The aftertaste was mostly hops and chocolate.

Mouthfeel – It was lightly carbonated – nearly perfect for a lager-style beer (at times I thought it was too much, but others too little). It was also very chewy for this style, but still very smooth and not heavy.

Drinkability – Definitely drinkable. I would have another (my friend was so impressed that he bought a growler to take home with him, in fact). This beer should appeal to many people, and the taste will depend on when you drink it – so it's a good group drink that you can have. I may go down and have another pitcher sometime today…

CALLING ALL POETS

Please send Poetry Corner submissions to oredig@mines.edu

Too Much Science? Try Creative Arts

Christina Perry
Staff Reporter

It's rare to find a club in the myriad of organizations at Mines which provides any sort of outlet for the good old right brain, but the Creative Arts Club is one such rarity.

Where reason and logic are king, the club is a much welcomed oasis to those of us here at the engineering school who actually *like* to express ourselves through creative writing, music, sculpting, painting, and other fine arts, instead of finally working out the challenge question on LON-CAPA.

The CAC was created in 2003, and is the embodiment of loose creativity, not holding regular meetings, but instead holding one very informal meeting at the beginning to each semester. As far as clubs go, it doesn't require much commitment, just an interest in the arts and a willingness to be social once in a while.

While the work required to maintain a membership in the CAC is next to nil, the benefits are many - including museum trips, outings to concerts, gallery openings, and a free membership to the Foothills Art Center.

Also, if you fancy yourself an artist, you can submit your handiwork to the CAC where they may exhibit it around the school. This is perhaps the most appealing part of the club to some, because there's nothing quite like the feeling you get when someone unwittingly walks up to your own artwork and says; "Holy Cow. That's good."

Creativity is not a quality which remains bottled up for long, and the CAC has undertaken many endeavors around campus throughout the 4 years they have existed here at Mines.

In case you're wondering who's been painting on the wall outside the Physics lecture hall in CTLM this year- that would be the CAC. The gigantic 'Orediggers' graffiti on the wall of Steinhauer Fieldhouse? Yep, that's the CAC.

And if you've been to the Hall of Justice sometime in your daunting career as a student at Mines, the 3-D mural there is yet another trademark of the club.

The CAC is certainly not left out of E-Days as well, for where there is fun, there's creativity. Last year they made a "Dartboard" complete with paint-filled balloons to entertain passersby, and you can be sure they'll be around campus during E-Days to come.

If you're interested in a club to exchange ideas, practice your foreshortening technique, or to just let out some steam with, then check out the Creative Arts Club's webpage at http://www.mines.edu/stu_life/organ/crarts.

Geek of the Week
...Renee Francese, Freshman

Lily Giddings
Staff Reporter

Lily Giddings/ Oredigger

Maybe the best thing about Pi Day is the Pie! Renee certainly thinks so, and her tattoo remindes her.

Renee Francese is a freshman in the Geophysics department. What makes her special is that her birthday is on March 14, or pi day, and she has a tattoo of pi on her back.

[Oredigger] What is the geekiest thing you've ever done?

[Francese] Well, I have a tattoo of the Greek letter pi on my back.

Why?

Because my birthday is on pi day. Plus, it's a really cool number.

What is the geekiest thing you've seen at Mines?

Wherever you go on campus, if you just listen to the conversations going on around you, everyone is talking about a crazy math problem, or their different classes. That's really geeky.

How do you feel about the ratio?

It's pretty great for me. *laughs*

What is your best geek joke?

A chemist, geologist, and physicist are asked the question, "What does 2 plus 2 equal?" The chemist answers, "Exactly 4." The geologist answers, "About 4." The physicist closes the door, draws the blinds and whispers, "What would you like it to be?"

What is the best science "thing"?

String theory: I don't actually believe it, but it's a pretty cool idea. It throws a complete curve ball to the way we think.

What do you like least about Mines?

Lon-CAPA hands down. Red boxes are detrimental to my health.

What do you do, outside of school work?

I play a lot of music. I play viola for the Jefferson County symphony and the CSM orchestra. I play bass drum for the band, and the violin for the string quartet. That's about it.

How many decimals of pi do you know?

Not very many; maybe 10 decimal places.

What is the best thing about having your birthday on pi day?

Eating all the pie, of course! My mom made it for me last year, but I had to make it for myself this year.

What is your favorite kind of pie?

Strawberry Rhubarb.

Just Peachy

Konrad Klett
Science and Tech Editor

The New Peach Garden is a quaint little Chinese restaurant with everything you would expect from a typical place such as this. This establishment is definitely a little cleaner than average, however, and manages to be very bright and cheerful despite being literally underground.

Unfortunately, I was in a hurry the last time I went and had only half an hour, but the staff had me in and out of there very quickly after I told them I was in a hurry. It starts with the usual choice of three different soups and cheese wontons or eggrolls. Tea is, of course, complementary, along with the aforementioned appetizers. As expected, the portions are not huge but not puny either.

The quality was very good. Spicy actually means spicy and the water is never empty. I had Kun Pau Chicken with egg drop soup and cheese wontons so if you had that combination you can take my word that it was up to par. Entrees are around five dollars for lunch and closer to ten for dinner. If you start from Mines, go down Washington Street towards the "Welcome to Golden" sign and look to your right, you'll find the New Peach Garden.

Salute to America

Chase Hoffman
Asst. Editor-in-Chief

For over 60 years, Captain America a.k.a. Steve Rodgers fought evil villains like the Red Skull, Hitler, and Communism on that flimsy paper. Recently, Marvel Comics killed off this beloved hero in the now notorious storyline, "Civil War."

The storyline is an intentional allegory about current event issues like the Patriot Act. In the comic, Steve Rodgers defies the superhero registration act after a hero tragically sets off a 9/11-like disaster. Rodgers eventually surrenders to police and later is fatally shot on the steps of a courthouse.

Zach Aman/ Oredigger

Captain America as known to Marvel comics is now just a ghost.

Superheroes have died in comics before, only to be resurrected later. Marvel Editor-in-Chief, Jose Quesada says this time it is different. "All I ask of my writers is if you're going to kill a character off, please let that death have some meaning in the overall scope of things," stated Quesada.

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More Than Social Commentary

Stranger in a Strange Land Both Thought-provoking and Stunning

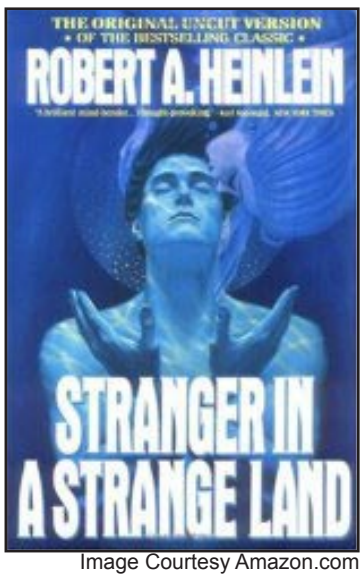


Image Courtesy Amazon.com

Sara Post
Copy Editor

It took me almost two years to finally start *Stranger in a Strange Land*. With nothing but a promise that I would like it, it was hard to find the dedication to really get started. It's not really that hard of a book to get into right away; the first two and a half chapters are fairly mind-blowing. Just don't allow yourself to stop until you're about eighty pages in, because it gets a bit complicated fairly quickly, and it's difficult to find your place again.

That said, the book as a whole is almost impossible to put down. It was finished in 1960 by Robert A. Heinlein, one of the "Big Three" of science fiction at the time (the other two were Isaac Asimov and Arthur C. Clarke). Just that ought to be enough to get a science fiction fan started: this book is really a must-read on the long list of good sci-fi novels, and it ranks at the very top. In fact, *Stranger in a Strange Land* is considered by many to be Heinlein's *magnum opus*, and with the scope of topics and plots covered by the novel's roughly five hundred pages, it is easy to see why.

Stranger in a Strange Land is the story of young Valentine Michael Smith, mostly called Mike. He is a human who, through various curious and tragic circumstances, was born on a spacecraft headed from Earth to Mars and was also the only survivor of the journey. He is raised by the Martians and then sent back to Earth when the next ship full of pioneers arrives on the Red Planet, roughly twenty years later.

The novel begins with his arrival on a futuristic Earth, a world governed by the Federation in the wake of World War III. It is a believable place, the Federation having a role not unlike that of the United Nations, if the latter were significantly more powerful. It is a mess of bureaucratic red tape and rampant self-advancement, and it is hard to believe that Heinlein is not mocking modern governments, especially since the barbs aren't terribly subtle. But he takes the time and has the skill to avoid stereotyping: some of the initially most offensive characters come out to be some of the best.

Heinlein, by using Mike, who is very intelligent and possesses an extremely powerful mind due to his Martian upbringing, is able to bring human nature and society into an unusual light. Everything - from eating with a fork to kissing to laughter - must be explained to the young man. Mike then spends a great deal of time attempting to "grok" what he has been told. Grokking is a Martian practice; it is closest, really, to the Buddhist idea of Nirvana - you grok to totally comprehend, accept, cherish, and absorb your surroundings. Or whatever you happen to be grokking. At least, that's the sense I can actually describe it in. You'll have to read the book and grok your own definition (it's a fun word to use, admit it).

It was hard to believe, while reading the book, that Heinlein wasn't in possession of some window into the future; a Christian sect that calls itself the Fosterites reminded me so much of the ever-more-prevalent megachurches of modern suburban society that I had to put aside the book for a moment to laugh. Some of his other descriptions strike just as close to home: "stereovision" (very close to TV) is a ridiculously enormous part of many people's lives, and the saturation of society with commercial brand names and advertisements would be comically absurd in the novel if it were not so painfully apparent in our current culture. The most pointed example of this – Heinlein could not have meant it any other way – comes near the end, as an important scene, viewed by the reader on a "stereo," is repeatedly interrupted by idiotic advertising. It was infuriating, but fittingly ironic all the same.

It must be noted that *Stranger* is not totally comprised of parody. Heinlein clearly had many strong opinions about the world, notably in the fields of human sexuality and religion. And there are obviously many contextual observations to be made, noting the fact that Heinlein wrote this book in the late fifties.

But, in the end, what matters the most in a novel is what the reader takes away from it. I do not exaggerate when I say that this book affected me deeply, and proved both thought-provoking and worth two or three more readings. So please, if you have not read this book already, and you'd like a good way to spend a day or two of your precious free time, read *Stranger in a Strange Land*. You will not regret it.

DVD Releases

March 27th

-Children of Men (R)
-Happy Feet (PG)
-Night at the Museum (PG)
-The Pursuit of Happyness (PG-13)

April 3rd

-Black Christmas (R)
-Death of a President (R)
-The Good Shepherd (R)
-Volver (R)

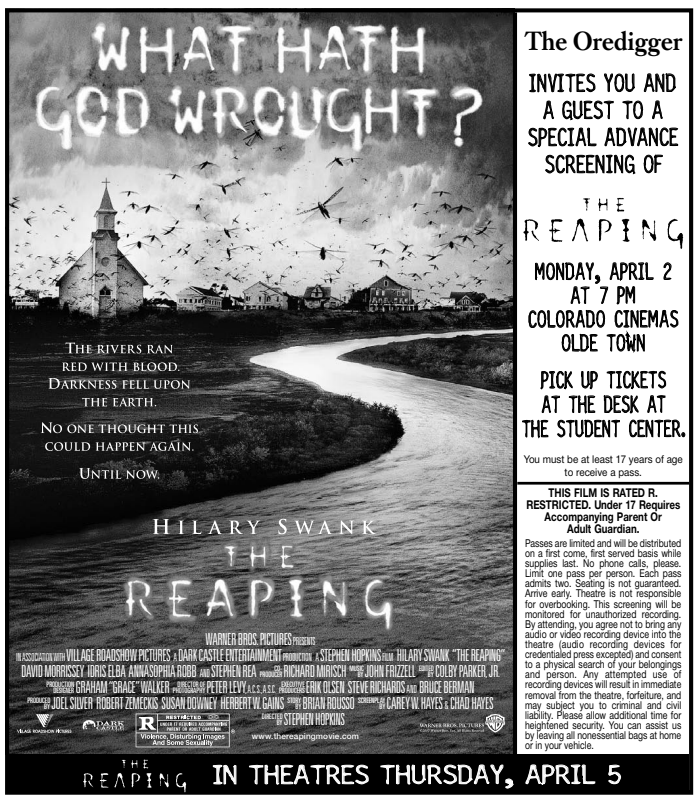
CD Releases

March 27th

-John Butler Trio
Grand National
-Various Artists
Now, Vol. 24
-Kaiser Chiefs
Yours Truly Angry Mob
-Elton John
Rocket Man: Number Ones

April 3rd

-Black Sabbath
The Dio Years
-Beyonce
B'Day
-Chevelle
Vena Sera
-Fountains of Wayne
Traffic and Weather
-The Almost
Southern Weather



Fun With Turtles

Konrad Klett
Science and Tech Editor

The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles is something that many of us grew up with, and is regaining much of its previous popularity. It began as a comic book in 1984, became a cartoon series in the late eighties and early nineties, a movie trilogy in the nineties, a second series in 2003, and most recently a computer animated movie named simply TMNT, a sequel to the first three live action flicks. Not surprisingly, the movie is aesthetically appealing and everything looks completely badass in that comic book hero sort of way. Before you see this though, or even if you already have, remember that it is not to be taken too seriously. It is cheesier than the turtles' sole form of sustenance. It is a decent story for a comic based movie but the characters are what really make this. All four of the turtles are very colorful, but I would have liked for Donatello and Michelangelo to have bigger roles. Casey Jones from the old movies was cooler. This Casey does take himself less seriously, so that's fun too. I thought the new Master Splinter would be a disgrace to the old one, but he also came across very classically. As per the PC trend, April is no longer the lame damsel in distress but a "warrior" as well. This is a fun movie, a cut above something like Starship Troopers but by no means some kind of Braveheart. New turtles fans will like it if they keep an open mind, but old turtles fans will be downright giddy. If you have not yet had a taste of the magnificent retardation that is TMNT, at least sample it, or you will be missing out.

Chinese Democracy

Still Waiting for the Next GNR Disc

Charlie Frost
Staff Columnist

Axl Rose. We all know him as the pompous front man with the distinctive snarl from Guns N' Roses. Over the years, the man has had enough balls to kick cameras out of the hands of concert-goers and challenge Kurt Cobain to a fist fight. Obviously, this kind of behavior will leave a rock band teetering on the edge. Egos clash, songs take longer to write, and the musicians get fed up.

In the mid-1990s, the band had dealt with enough of Axl's crap and decided to gradually unravel. Once Slash left the group, the future of GNR was very uncertain. Axl decided to keep moving and began writing new material on his own.

In 1999, the band (reformed with new members) rose from the ashes and released a single for the Arnold Schwarzenegger movie *End of Days*, a song intended to be a teaser for an upcoming Guns N' Roses album. Was it really true? Was Guns N' Roses actually going to release a brand new album?

Apparently so. The LP, tentatively titled *Chinese Democracy*, was scheduled to be completed shortly after the movie's release. Fans eagerly waited. And then, they waited some more. Chinese Democracy was nowhere to be seen. However, the band had not disappeared.

In 2000, eccentric guitar virtuoso Buckethead joined GNR and appeared in several live performances, including the "Rock in Rio" festival in 2001 and the MTV Video Music Awards in 2002. While the band played several new songs on stage, people were still anticipating studio renditions of these musical numbers on the new LP.

Concert promoters had even pre-

Image Courtesy Amazon.com

pared a Chinese Democracy tour in 2002. The tour got off to a rough start. Axl was showing up late to the scheduled performances and riots from GNR fans ensued as a result. The tour was canceled and the band disappeared yet again.

By 2004, Buckethead was tired of Axl and abandoned the group. However, one important factor was still present in this awkward situation: fan enthusiasm.

In the same year, Geffen Records released the Guns N' Roses "Greatest Hits" compilation and it has since gone three times platinum. People were still hungry for Guns N' Roses. Fans were still excited about potential new material. Everyone was *still* waiting for the *Chinese Democracy* album.

Early last year, Axl began making surprise appearances in the press. He even told Rolling Stone magazine that "people will hear music this year." It was quite a claim from someone working on the same album for nearly seven years.

Despite natural skepticism, the man made a point. Three demos from *Chinese Democracy* leaked onto the internet and the band (once again reformed with new members) was playing live shows for tens of thousands of people in New York City and Lisbon.

People were, in fact, hearing new music in 2006. But by the year's end, there was no album in sight. In December, Axl made up some excuses for the album not being finished and decided to announce an actual release date for the first time. March 6th, 2007 was the target date posted in Axl's statement. It has since been scrapped and postponed yet again.

Now, we stand today scratching our heads wondering when this album will see the light of day. Sources have reported that all of the recording for the album is finished and that the band is in the post-production phase of polishing it up. There is no official date of release at the moment, and at $13 million in production costs and nearly a decade of struggle, it is the most expensive unreleased album ever recorded.

So, Axl, there's only one question left to ask. When in hell are we going to see some *Chinese Democracy*?

Shooter Hits Target

Andrew Aschenbrenner
Entertainment Editor

Bob Lee Swagger is not just a Marine sniper, he's one of the best snipers in the world. After his friend dies on a mission in Ethiopia, he goes into seclusion, only to be found by Colonel Isaac Johnson. Johnson (Danny Glover) wants him to serve his country one last time, using his skills and expertise as a sniper to avert a Presidential assassination attempt. Swagger agrees, and has to evade a manhunt to prove his innocence after he is set up.

Courtesy Kimberley French/Paramount Pictures

Mark Wahlberg, coming off his Oscar-nominated performance in *The Departed*, does a great job portraying Swagger, the main character from the book off which *Shooter* is based, *Point of Impact* by Stephen Hunter. *Shooter* is full of action and fast-paced, and it delivers a thrill along with a well-done movie.

Wahlberg plays Swagger as having honor and integrity, and the character has a unique appeal different from other characters in movies with similar plots. *Shooter* delivers on all it promises and more. It's two hours definitely worth your dollar.

Poehler Talks Glory

Andrew Aschenbrenner
Entertainment Editor

Amy Poehler is a sixth-year Saturday Night Live regular, but the comedian who jump-started her career with the Upright Citizens Brigade improv group has been making movies lately, showing up in films such as *Mean Girls* and *Envy*. Poehler appears alongside Will Ferrell, Jon Heder, and husband Will Arnett in the new movie *Blades of Glory*, coming out Friday.

Poehler plays one-half of a brother/sister ice skating team that competes with Ferrell and Heder's characters when they decide to skate together in pairs competition. Amy says that they "had to learn a lot of fancy skating moves" and that she was "probably the worst skater of the bunch." She adds, "Now I can ice skate pretty well…but it was a long road."

Amy claims she didn't base her character Fairchild on anyone specific, instead describing her as an "ice queen," fine on the outside but a "maniacal crazy [person]" on the inside.

A big part of *Blades of Glory* is the skating outfits, and costume designer Julie Weiss went all-out with crazy costumes. "We had some super cool costumes and we had some really long fittings to make sure we could actually skate in them," notes Amy, joking that they'll hang one day in the Smithsonian. She says it was "really fun" trash-talking on the ice. "We had a total blast working on [the film]."

Reel Geek

A Film Geek Writes About Geeks on Film

Jen Schneider
Columnist

I was watching *The Departed* last night, feeling happy at how good it ended up being, and commenting to myself that I was glad Leonardo DiCaprio was making movies again. Then I paused. "But, wait!" I mused. "*Did* he stop making movies? Or did I just get so grossed out by the spectacle that was *Titanic* that I sort of blocked him out of my memory?"

So I decided to check. Where ya been, Leo? Or, rather, did you ever leave?

See, I'm not *too* old. But I'm old enough to remember when Leonardo DiCaprio was the darling of the independents. If you're reading this, chances are you've never seen *This Boy's Life* (1993) or, one of my favorites of all time, *What's Eating Gilbert Grape* (1993), in which DiCaprio plays Arnie, an autistic seventeen-year-old. We've seen good actors go bad trying to play autistic or special needs characters, right? Uh, Dustin Hoffman? Sean Penn, for God's sake? But DiCaprio did it well, and without the weight of the Hollywood star's reputation behind him. He was still pretty much unknown at that point.

But he delivered in that role, and in a big way. *Gilbert* arguably made DiCaprio's career. It put him on the map: he was an incredibly cute kid, and obviously had the acting chops to back it up. DiCaprio then lit up in *The Basketball Diaries* (1995), and though Shakespeare purists hated it, I think he was brilliant in the 1996 bizarro, postmodern version of *Romeo and Juliet*. He proved himself as a leading man in that film, and also as a potential (if seemingly adolescent) sex symbol.

Courtesy Reuters

All of which paved the way for him to star in the historical melodrama to capsize all historical melodramas: James Cameron's 1997 *Titanic*. I hated this movie before it even appeared on the screen. Its hype was so over the top, the story so hackneyed, Celine Dion's voice so seizure-inducing, that I thought I would vomit just shelling out the five bucks for the matinee ticket.

But I shouldn't have been so worried. Really, I liked the movie, a little. I wrote a report in the third grade on the sinking of the Titanic, so I had a nerd's interest in how the whole thing would be portrayed, and also (though the critic should never admit such a thing), I have a teensy, tinsy little crush on old Leo, so it was sort of *okay* to see him in such a big movie. Kate Winslet was great, too, and starring in that movie earned her the cache to make films like *Hideous Kinky* (1998), *Holy Smoke* (1999), and one of my favorite movies of all time, *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* (2004). So that movie wasn't *all* bad.

But still. *Titanic* so saturated the culture that it was like hearing your favorite, undiscovered band suddenly make it big on the radio (can you say Gomez?) and you get song fatigue and don't want to hear it again for a long, long time, and it's as if something special has been ruined for you. I just never, ever wanted to see that stupid ship on screen again, or hear that horrible song again, or—and I can't believe I'm saying this—see DiCaprio again. Or at least for a long while.

And, in my defense, he made a few dogs after *Titanic*. *The Man in the Iron Mask* (1998), *The Beach* (2000), *Gangs of New York* (2002): all suckfests.

Then came *Catch Me If You Can* (2002), which brought back the quirky DiCaprio I had fallen for in *What's Eating Gilbert Grape*, and I felt like I was running into an old friend, a friend who had gone through a stage where he got really popular and then turned into a jerk and did dumb things he's not proud of, but now is back to being his old great self, only older and wiser.

So now we see DiCaprio making *The Departed*, and *Blood Diamond*, and he's brilliant again. He has finally managed to age a little so he doesn't look as if he's seventeen, and his abilities have widened, so he's not just playing the petulant little troublemaker anymore. He's a convincing "rat" in Massachusetts law enforcement, a compelling mercenary in Africa, and I can't wait to see what he does with the adaptation of Malcolm Gladwell's *Blink*. In short, the boy is back, making really good movies and playing really good parts. Except he's a man now. And, for that, we should all be glad.

Arriving Shortly

Chase Hoffman
Asst. Editor-in-Chief

March 30th

The Lookout
Miramax Films
Drama
Rated R

Starring: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Jeff Daniels, Matthew Goode

Directed by Scott Frank

Summary: Chris (Gordon-Levitt) suffered a near fatal head injury that causes him to have bad memory so he relies heavily on his notepad. He gets caught up in a heist of the bank he works for as a janitor, but things go screwy.

Impression: Some people expected a *Memento* inspired heist movie, but you won't really get that here. It might be kind fun to watch, but you should save yourself for *Grindhouse.*

Blades of Glory
Paramount Pictures
Comedy
Rated PG-13

Starring: Will Ferrell, Jon Heder

Directed by Josh Gordon and Will Speck

Summary: Chazz Michaels (Ferrell) and Jimmy MacElroy (Heder) tied for gold in figure skating men's single competition in the World Championships, but got into a fight and were stripped of their medals and banned from Men's Singles competition. Using a loophole, they both get back in the Olympics, competing as the first all male pairs team.

Impression: We know what these two stars are capable of, but the plot isn't strong enough to support more than a handful of good figure skating and gay jokes.

April 4th

Are We Done Yet?
Revolution Studios
Comedy
Rated PG

Starring: Ice Cube, Nia Long, John C. McGinley

Directed by Steve Carr (also directed *Dr. Dolittle 2*)

Summary: Nick (Ice Cube) wants to move into a fixer-upper in the upper suburb. However, Nick sucks at fixing things and the local contractor (McGinley) has bizarre methods of business.

Impression: Ice Cube should probably have his man status audited because I can hardly believe he did *Are We There Yet?* Now, there is this piece of crap. Please don't see this, I beg you.

April 5th

The Reaping
Warner Bros. Pictures
Drama/Horror
Rated R

Starring: Hillary Swank, David Morrissey, AnnaSophia Robb

Directed by Stephen Hopkins (also directed *Predator 2*)

Summary: A small backwater town in Texas has been experiencing biblical plagues. Katherine (Swank), a professor known for debunking miraculous events, has come to try to explain what has been going on, but finds these ten events are much different

Impression: The ten deadly plagues are pretty crazy and all, but this movie will be pretty bland. Expect to see some fancy special effects for the plagues and watch Hillary ride out her success from her Oscar.

April 6th

Grindhouse
Dimension Films
Action
Rated R

Planet Terror

Written and Directed by Robert Rodriguez (also responsible for *Sin City*)

Starring: Rose McGowan and Freddy Rodriguez

Summary: Cherry and Wray are the last hope for a town soon to be consumed by a flesh eating zombie virus. Wray drives the chopper while Cherry fights them with her leg that happens to be an assault rifle.

Impression: Ode to B-movie, homage to senseless sex, violence, and rock and roll. My friends, we have an honest representation from the trailer of what to expect. The reason it's called *Grindhouse* is the whole thing is over 3 hours long, hardly any of it for plot building.

Death Proof

Written by Quentin Tarantino (also wrote *Pulp Fiction*)

Directed by Eli Roth (also directed *Hostel*)

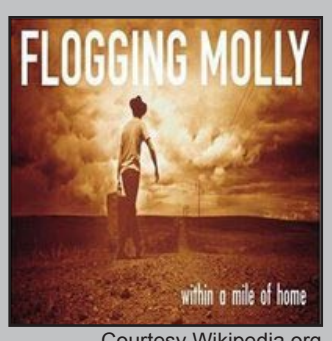
Starring: Kurt Russell

Summary: Psychotic Stuntman Mike (Russell) stalks and kills beautiful women with his car. That pretty much sums up "Death Proof."

Rockin' Irish

Hilary Brown
Features Editor

Embracing a combination of traditional Irish music and ballsy punk rock, Flogging Molly strikes an uncanny balance between the folky harmonies of the mandolin and the driving power of electric guitars. *Within a Mile of Home* (2004) is the band's most recent installment to its unique discography.



Courtesy Wikipedia.org

The CD embraces traditional subject matter and more modern themes. "Tobacco Island" is a narrative of Irish Catholics who were shipped to Barbados as slaves by Oliver Cromwell in 1659.

"Screaming at the Wailing Wall" is an indictment of the Bush administration and its war on terror, claiming that "I'll liberate your peoples' fate/ Spoke the Burnin' Bush/ But the song of beasts/ Grow with oil soaked teeth/ Their dollar is mighty and true/ Now the eagle soars the sky/ Over refugee and child/ And to all there is no end/ Another day in perfect Hell."

Throughout most of the songs, equal emphasis is placed on both traditional instruments (tin whistle, mandolin, fiddle, accordion) and modern instruments. The songs have singing melodies juxtaposed with sonic walls of choruses. The fusion offers a template that piques the listeners' attention.

From a brief listen, it is clear that Flogging Molly is a band that translates well to live performances. The Mines campus will have the opportunity to decide for itself when Flogging Molly performs during E-Days.

Go Download: Tobacco Island, With a Wonder and a Wild Desire, Seven Drunken Pirates

Wikipedia

Do's and Do Not's for the Modern Day Library of Alexandria

Bruce Bugbee
Sports Editor

Wikipedia is the online community encyclopedia that is quickly becoming the go-to destination for information ranging from chemical reactions to characters from *Lost*. Wikipedia was launched in 2001 by founder Jimmy Wales and is powered by a community of volunteers that do everything from article writing, editing for grammar and punctuation, to providing citations. It soon evolved from a narrow-focused experiment into a worldwide phenomenon, translated into 250 different languages. Now that Wikipedia has become such an integral part of modern culture, there four things that every college student needs to observe in order to get the most out of this modern day Library of Alexandria.

Don't Use Wikipedia in Research Papers

With Wikipedia's meteoric rise in popularity over the past couple years, an debate has been created over the validity of using Wikipedia in academic papers. While recent studies have claimed that Wikipedia is as accurate as most other encyclopedias on average, many professors still frown upon using Wikipedia in papers. There have even been reports of professors dropping students a letter grade for each Wikipedia reference they use in their papers. Luckily one of Wikipedia's strengths is its citation practice which makes it easy to find the original source that the information came from.

Don't Ignore Wikipedia

While a lot controversy surrounds the validity of Wikipedia as an academic source, the community of volunteers that runs Wikipedia has done an excellent job in making sure that the information on the site is factual and correct. With this level of accuracy and the ease of the Wikipedia interface, tracking down even the most obscure information only takes a few clicks. While Wikipedia shouldn't be your only stop for information, it should be one of the first you make.

Don't Get Caught Editing Your Own Page

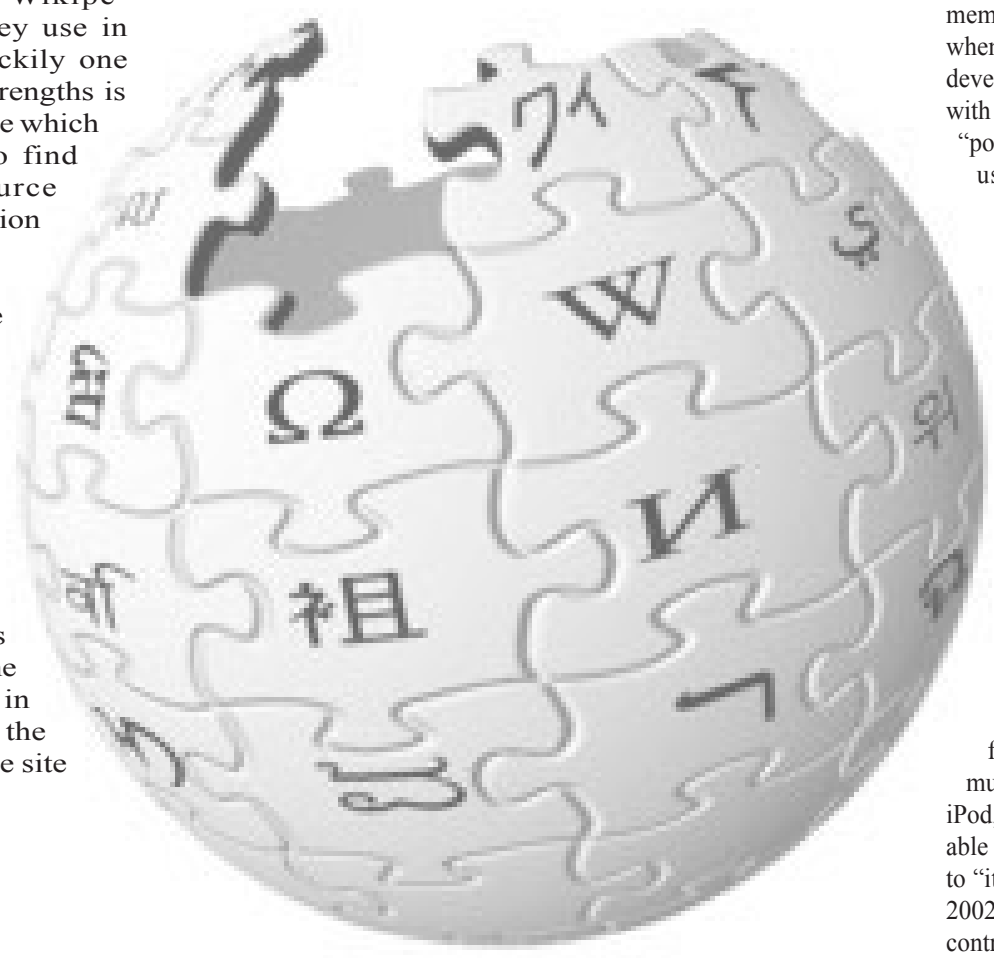
If you ever find yourself in the public eye for any reason, chances are you will have a Wikipedia page. Even though Wikipedia invites everyone to contribute, they highly discourage people from editing articles that have an inherent conflict of interest, so that makes editing anything about yourself a big no-no. Recently, members of both the Senate and House of Representatives have had their IP addresses blocked by Wikipedia, since they were having their aides edit information about themselves and post inflammatory information about their rivals. Even Wikipedia's founder, Jimmy Wales, was caught editing his own page and was promptly spurned by the online community that he helped create.

Don't Use it for Revenge

This point is a bit of advice that I could have probably used. I got into an argument with my friend Chris the other day and he called me fat. I felt that the appropriate response was to spend an hour of my time creating a Wikipedia page "documenting" his life and his subsequent rise to being a jerk. The page contained very comical depictions of his childhood, his hobbies, his relationship, but mostly contained comments about his mother.

This page went over very well with all our friends (whom I emailed a screen shot of the page itself to) but not so much with the Wikipedia administrators. I got the page deleted four times in an hour which is more a testament to the Wikipedia editing process than anything. After the fourth deletion, I received an email stating that I have been banned from ever contributing to Wikipedia again. While the thought that I can not help out with this great user-driven project any more is somewhat saddening, I take great pride in the fact that somewhere in the world there were people who had to read my article and now think that my buddy Chris was raised by pimps and prostitutes.

Regardless of my own actions or any other oddities that take place within the pages of Wikipedia, it is still a great tool to use when used properly and can be a great aid in any endeavor—even getting back at that jerk Chris.



The IMAX Experience

Adam Freeland
Staff Writer

"See More, Hear More, Feel More," a catch phrase that is backed up by some of the latest technology coming together to make the *IMAX Experience*.

IMAX theaters use a 70mm film that is about ten times the size of the standard theaters 35mm film, allowing the true detail of the film to be seen. Film this big requires some of the most advanced projectors ever built. The bulbs that power them can be up to 15,000 watts. Using projectors that take this large film requires large cameras. The cameras that film on this detailed film can weigh up to 100 lbs and are rugged enough for virtually any filming environment.

All the effort put into the detail of the film would be lost without an equally impressive screen. Some IMAX theaters have screens that approach 80 feet tall. These massive screens are not a flat wall like at a traditional theater, they have a unique curve that comes towards the audience and fills their field of view. With virtually no excess peripheral vision, you get absorbed into the experience.

The Screen's greatest feature is actually hidden out of sight. The main frontal speakers are tucked away behind the screen. The sound literally comes from the immaculate image you see.

Photo Courtesy of The Denver Museum of Nature and Science

Coupled with the other clusters at the rear of the theater, this 44-speaker 16-amplifier 12,000-Watt puts you right in the action.

Some IMAX theaters have domed ceilings that reach over the awesome stadium style seating, allowing a reclined viewing. Some films are available in 3D at the IMAX. 300 was recently released, and all those who have had the chance to see this masterpiece at the IMAX were tempted by the previews for Spiderman 3. The special effects of this preview make even non-Spiderman fans want to come back for the premier.

Paper Clip Plays Music!

Konrad Klett
Science and Tech Editor

The first iPods came out in 2001 with five gigabytes (GB) for four hundred dollars or ten GB for five hundred dollars. The little music players have come a long way since then, now taking photos and playing videos for less money and with more memory. The iPod was first born when specific members in Apple's development team were unsatisfied with either the large size of so called "portable" devices or the relative uselessness of smaller units. The name iPod came from freelance copywriter who exclaimed; "Open the pod bay door, Hal!" in reference to the movie *2001: A Space Odyssey*. Apple already owned but had never used the name iPod. The ease of use can largely be attributed to Pixo, a company that iPod outsourced for user interface. Steve Jobs, co-founder of Apple and CEO of Pixar before Disney's buy out, directly oversaw the development of the user interface. Although just about any music format is acceptable to the iPod, Microsoft WMA is not allowable and songs must be converted to "itunes" to be played. In July of 2002 the touch sensitive wheel for controlling the iPod's functions replaced the buttons on the first model. The new model also had ten and twenty GB for the same prices as the previous units respectively. January of 2004 saw the first iPod minis. The minis had four GB initially but later six and cost two hundred fifty. In September of 2006, the nano was introduced with one, two, and four GB capacities and ranged from one hundred and fifty to two hundred and fifty dollars. The latest ones cost the same but come with two, four, and eight GB. The first shuffle had 512 MB for one hundred dollars and one GB for one hundred fifty dollars. The latest shuffle is a one GB paperclip that plays music for eighty dollars. While the regular iPods have internal hard drives, the shuffles and nanos have flash drives. The latest standard iPods, called the Video iPod, come in sixty and eighty GB for two fifty and three hundred dollars. After the purchase of an iPod, there are further ways to burn money on the excessive number of accessories. Among the more useful accessories are car chargers, various cases to prevent damage, and car adapters. BMW was the first car company to offer iPod connections followed by many others such as Ferrari, Acura, Audi, Honda, Renault, Mercedes-Benz, Volvo, Scion, Nissan Alfa Romeo, and Volkswagen. The iPod now comes in several different colors and can even be ordered with a name engraved on it if bought online.

2007 The E-Digger

Mythbusting the School of Mines

Popular Television Show Visits for E-Days

Aside from the great fireworks, amazing bands, hilarious comedians, and the general debauchery that comprise E-Days every year, the E-Days committee brings in a special educational event every year that sometimes flies below the radar. It is different this year since the educational event won't be a boring lecture or slide show, but rather an appearance by special effects wiz Tory Belleci from the Discovery Channel's hit show Mythbusters. Belleci began his career working on movie models for the likes of The Phantom Menace, Attack of the Clones, Starship Troopers, and the last two movies of the Matrix trilogy. He then moved on to his current role as resident pyromaniac on Mythbusters, a show that uses a mix of engineering prowess and backyard destruction to debunk popular urban myths. The show has tackled topics from how to make a cement truck explode to painting a room with dynamite.

Apart from working with the rest of the Mythbusters crew to debunk urban legends, Belleci spends his time working on his own independent movies. One of his productions was recently released at the famous Sundance Film Festival and also shown on the Sci-Fi Channel.

Belleci will be showcasing unaired footage from Mythbusters and even taking questions from CSM students on Saturday at 6 pm in Bunker Auditorium. Admission is free to all CSM students, faculty, employees, and guests but seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. With explosions and destruction being a favorite past time of many CSM students, seats are sure to go fast so make sure to get there early so you don't miss any of the best educational event to hit CSM in years.

Photo by Chase Hoffman/Oredigger

Single File in the Lineup

Aside from the annual fireworks display, the concert that is put on every E-Days is arguably the most anticipated event of the whole weekend. With big names such as Blink 182, Eve 6, Unwritten Law, and Everclear playing this show in the past, there is always a big set of expectations to satisfy when putting on the concert. This year the E-Days committee has gone above and beyond expectations with the booking of two amazing bands—opening act Single File and headliner Flogging Molly.

Flogging Molly is a feverish punk rock band integrated with violins, tin whistles, mandolins, banjos, and accordions. They not only have great music but an excellent live show. The rock septuplet promises high energy with every show. "We've developed a really unique sound," says King, lead vocalist, of his seven-piece outfit. "The first time we all got together to play, there was an energy in the room that I'd never experienced in any other band I'd ever been in… and it wasn't due to any single ingredient, instrument or individual. We started playing in a bar and just played and played and played. We're a live band. We'll always have that."

This year's opening act is the group of three guys who call themselves Single File. These three hail from Denver, Colo. and have been playing together since they were in junior high. After finishing their higher education, Single File decided to return to music. Through rough patches and band rehearsals over the phone, Single File has managed to produce three great albums, self-book and perform six national tours. They recently played channel 93.3's Kegs and Eggs in downtown Denver and are going on tour with The Fray later this summer after finishing their new record, which will be released on Warner Brothers/Reprise Records.

The sheer magnitude of this year's concert has spurned the fastest ticket sales in recent memory. All 1000 student tickets and a good portion of the 1400 non-student tickets were sold out within the first two days of being on sale. Limited supplies of tickets are still available through the Student Activities office and will be sold at the door of the concert if any are available. The show is at 7:00pm on Friday at the Steinhauer Field House with doors opening at 6:30pm.

See The "100% Correct" E-Days Schedule On The Next Page

African Breeze Cocktail Recipe

Ingredients: 50 mL amarula cream liqueur, 25 mL orange liqueur (cointreau, grand marnier, etc.).

Cover rim of glass with brown sugar, fill with crushed ice. Pour orange liqueur into glass first and amarula cream second. Add garnish if desired.

From 1001Cocktails.com

(The Oredigger does not endorse underage drinking)

E-Days Engineers

Each year the departments on campus are asked to select one outstanding senior to be recognized during E-days. Those selected are collectively known as E-days Engineers and recognized individually in the E-days booklet. The winners also receive a personalized goldpan with their name and major engraved in it. During the ore cart pull, the E-days Engineers are recognized on the steps of the capital and given their awards. It is a great honor to receive this award because the professors select the student.

This year's winners are:
Justin Chichester, Chemical Engineer;
Daniel Steele, Economics and Business;
Dimitri Dounas-Frazer, Math and Computer Science;
Josef Spalenka, Physics;
Sarah Lynn Rickard, Geology;
Eirik Antero Pyhtila, Metallurgical and Materials Engineer;
Katherine Muterspaugh, Mechanical Engineer;
Suu (Mike) Nguyen, Electrical Engineer;
Lindsey Quinlisk, Civil Engineer;
James A. Shuss, Petroleum;
Jessica Fusher, Chemistry and Geochemistry;
Matthew Wisniewski, Geophysics;
Rachel Johnson, Environmental Engineer.

Check out this year's booklet for the winners' bios and be sure to congratulate them at the ore cart pull!

Safar-E Days

Swing That Trebuchet

The Tau Beta Pi Trebuchet Contest has quickly risen in popularity, and has joined the Oilfield Olympics and Mr. Big Digger as an integral part of the annual E-Days experience.

The Trebuchet Contest pits independent teams against each other in a competition of wits, resourcefulness, and engineering prowess. Each team builds a trebuchet, based off of an ancient medeival siege weapon, following a loose set of guidelines. The goal of each team is to be able to launch gallon jugs of water across the field at a cardboard castle. Teams win points based on the distance launched, accuracy, and damage done to the castle.

This year's Trebuchet Contest is set to be the biggest one ever. The contest will be held on the south IM fields during the field events on Saturday. There will be a viewing area so that everyone can watch the destruction safely. As an added bonus, Ryan Balchuk will provide traditional bagpipe music that will be played throughout the competition.

Get Your Comedy On

The annual comedy show is one of the most anticipated events for E-Days every year. CSM has played host to some of the best and brightest comedians in the country and this year is no different. The E-Days committee has worked hard to bring two hilarious gentlemen together on the same stage for what will surely be an amazing show.

The first comedian for this year's show is the ever-funny Pete Correale, pictured above. Correale has appeared on MTV's pre-Super Bowl special in Houston, performed on The Tonight Show, Comedy Central's Premium Blend, Last Call with Carson Daly, and Tough Crowd with Colin Quinn. He also is the co-host of a weekly radio show on Sirius Satellite Radio with the Half Baked star Jim Breuer.

The second performer for the show is Owen Smith. Smith has been noted as a brilliant observationalist with an ability to be funny without being too vulgar. Some of his experiences include performing on Comedy Central's Premium Blend, BET's Def Comedy Jam, NBC's Friday Night, and the prestigious Montreal Just For Laughs comedy festival.

With these two comedians performing on the same stage, this year's E-Days comedy show is sure to be one for the record books. Tickets are five dollars and will be sold at the door. The show starts at 8pm on Saturday in Bunker Auditorium but seating is limited so get there early so you don't miss out on one of the funniest shows to hit CSM in ages.

Official E-Days Schedule

This is the final schedule.

Thursday

• 9 PM: Fireworks Show (Brooks Field)

• After Fireworks: Kickoff Games, DJ, Swing Dance (Student Center)

Friday

• 9 AM: Orecart Pull (Meet at IM Fields)

• 2-7 PM: Field Events (IM Fields North)

• 4:30-6:30 PM: Pig Roast & Free Food (IM Fields North)

• 7 PM: Flogging Molly & Single File (Steinhauer Fieldhouse)

• 9 PM: RHA Event (Student Center)

Saturday

• 8 AM: BlasterBlast 5K Run (Kafadar Commons)

• 10:30-12 PM: Cardboard Boat Race (Clear Creek)

• 11-4:30 PM: Car Show (Elm Street Near IM Fields)

• 12-4:30 PM: Field Events (IM Fields North)

• 1:30-4 PM: Charity BBQ (IM Fields North)

• 6 PM: Mythbusters (Bunker Auditorium)

• 8 PM: Comedians Pete Correale and Owen Smith (Bunker Auditorium)

• 9 PM: RHA Event (Student Center)

Dear Students,

Safar-E-Days is unprecedented. In the first two days of selling merchandise, we sold out of 1000 discounted student admission tickets to the concert and 650 merchandise packets. There are many of you who were unable to pick up a packet, but you don't have to miss out on all of the fun! 85% of the events at E-days are free including the presentation by Tory Belleci of Mythbusters, the fireworks, swing dance, DJ dance, kickoff games, RHA's bingo and poker nights, cardboard boat race, orecart pull, pig roast, and field events. Bring $1 to the charity Bar-be-que to support children's AIDS relief through the Children's Miracle Network and get lunch on the field Saturday. No tickets are necessary, if you didn't get one, just bring your donation. We will sell Comedian tickets at the door for $5 until we fill the auditorium. As for the concert, we are going to have a packed house! Get there early to buy merchandise from Single File and Flogging Molly, and then get a good place to stand for the concert. It's going to be exciting, so be prepared to move with the music!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my committee for all the hard work that they have put in since November to make this event happen. If you see one of them in a red shirt on the field or at an event, please thank them yourself for bringing a break to the students and a fun opportunity for us to welcome the community to our home. They have done more for the students this semester than you can see on the surface.

Sincerely,
Kris Illi,
E-Days Chair

Student Clubs

Astronomy Club
Ever watch the sky? Come join the Astronomy Club and learn basic astronomy! Our meetings are Thursday at 7:00 pm. Contact Mark Gefreh at mgefreh@mines.edu

CMI
Campus Ministry International. Dealing with life's tough questions. Sexuality, Relationship, Ethics, Spirituality and more. Monday nights, 7:30 p.m. SC-C. For info cmi.csm@gmail.com or (303)499-9965

CRU
Campus Crusade for Christ. Thurs. @ 7 pm in SC-C. Everyone welcome.

Circle K
Circle K is a volunteer org. helping people. Got tons of projects, just need you! Contact jrisner@mines.edu.

Dance Team
Interested in dancing? Offers both beginning and advanced classes in: jazz, lyrical, hip hop, and tap. Times & directions, for info contact hbrown@mines.edu.

FCA
Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Wed. meets at 7:30 Student Center Ballrooms D&E. All welcome. jwells@mines.edu.

French Club
A social club where Francophones have an opportunity to speak to each other, celebrate French events, promote French culture on campus. If you are interested, please send an email to kgengenb@mines.edu.

ISEE
International Society of Explosives Engineers. Contact jgresham@mines.edu. 6pm, 3rd monday of each month, exact date and location TBA (email for details). We have monthly meetings with speakers from many different industries. All students are welcome to attend meetings, www.mines.edu/academics/mining/csm_isee

Juggling Club
Meets Thursdays at 5:30pm on the Kafadar commons. The CSM Juggling Club is dedicated to advancing the juggling skills of all its members. We teach our members everything from a simple three ball cascade, to club passing, and then encourage them to learn upwards of nine balls. If you're interested, show up to a meeting, or contact Michael at mdunlap@mines.edu

Karate Club
Meets every Moday and Wednesday Night, from 6:30 to 7:00 pm in the gym wrestling room. All levels of experience, from beginner to advanced, are welcome! For more information, contact Jason Dardano at ddardano@mines.edu.

Kendo Club
Where: Field House
When: Wednesday, January 25, 2005 8:00 P.M. – 10:00 P.M.
Anyone who is interested should attend; we will provide all the information necessary. Practice is open to all skill levels, no experience necessary. A great opportunity to exercise, improve coordination, and have fun.

MSEC
Materials Science and Engineering Club meets Friday in HH 202 at noon. Lunch is provided for members, and guest lecturers will be speaking. All majors invited to join. jeperkin@mines.edu.

Newman Group
Catholic Newman Group. Meets every Monday at 7pm in the Ted Adams Room of the Green Center for faith based discussion and community. ccooper@mines.edu for more info.

ORC
Outdoor Rec. Center. Recreation, equipment and lessons. Visit ORC next to C3 store in Mines Park. Hours: Mon. Wed. and Fri. from 10-6, Tues. and Thurs. from 12-6. 303-273-3184

PreMed Society
We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of every month at 5 pm in HH211. Contact wsvoboda@mines.edu.

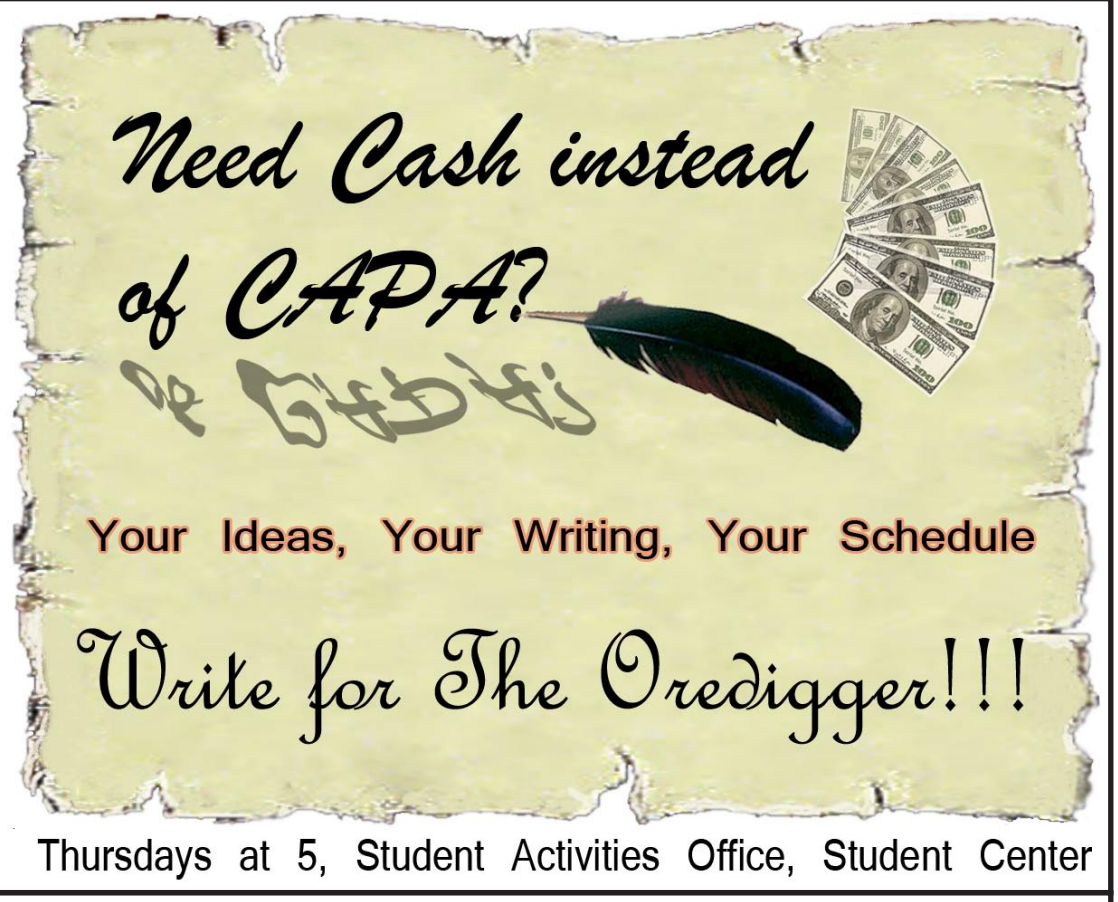
SCA
Students for Creative Anachronism. Fencing meets Thrus. 7-9 in the Field House. Belly & court dance Tues. 7-9 in SC. dhoberec@mines.edu.

Sigma Lambda
1st and 3rd Tuesdays of Every Month in Library Boettcher Room. EVERYONE WELCOME: gay, bisexual, transgendered & allies. sigmalambda@mines.edu.

Sober Drivers
Need a ride home on Fri. or Sat. night between 9 pm & 3 am? Kappa Sigma Sober Driver Program 303-279-9951. Must be within 15 min. of campus.

SEB
Society of Economics and Business. Meetings are held bi-weekly in EH 211 with guest speakers from the working world. The speakers talk about their experience and give insight into the real world of business. Food and drinks are provided at the meetings. Questions? Contact Sarah Casias at scasias@mines.edu.

SWE
Society of Women Engineers. Hear from speakers in industry, universities etc. on topics affecting women & students at Mines. Weds. 12 CO 209 jnekuda@mines.edu.



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4 bedrooms and 2 baths

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Great House close to Mines (5 minutes east of campus by car, about 3 miles). 1300 sq. ft. on main floor and 1300 in basement, 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, large living room, plus large family room. All appliances (+washer and dryer) and all window coverings, there is a 2 car garage, plenty of parking and a fenced back yard. Possession is May 15 and the lease for one year at $1700/mo with one year contract, deposit is $2000. For pictures and floor plan email gmartin@cobar.org Or call Greg at 303-257-1486 or 303-690-2269

Fall Leasing 5 Min From CSM

Houses: 4-5 Bedrooms
$1350-$1995/month
Cottage: 1 Bedroom
$695/month
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All Available 8/2-8/16
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Call Dalk 303-494-7800
Shown: 1006 13th St.

CSM Softball Streaks Past Competition

Oredigger Women Beat Fort Hayes and Adams State; Improve to 14-13

Mike Stone/Oredigger

Katie Kocman throws a strike in an impressive weekend showing with two wins.

Mike Stone/Oredigger

CSM women regroup during the game against Adams St.

Mike Stone
Staff Reporter

The CSM women's softball team is in mid-season swing. The Orediggers women are currently sitting at 14-13 with about half of the season left to go.

CSM had an impressive showing this past weekend by going 2-1 for the series against Adam's State.

Pitcher Katie Kocman came away with two wins on the three game series. She led her team to an 11-1 victory in the second game and a 8-0 win in the third game. Mines lost the first game to the Grizzlies 4-2.

Kocman also swung the bat well as she went three for three at bat in the first game, with one RBI. Margie Cone led Mines in the third game, hitting in three runs and going a perfect three for three at bats.

CSM also had an impressive set of wins last Thursday in a double header versus Fort Hayes State. The Orediggers came out on top in the first game, winning by a slim 5-4. Pitcher Taylor Cayou led the first game allowing only ten hits and striking out six.

The second game was much more decisive when Mines won over Fort 10-1. Kocman pitched this game and guided Mines to victory after only allowing six hits. One of the biggest assets of the day was senior Beth Skidmore, who got two runs and four RBI's versus Fort Hayes.

This year's women's softball team is led by Head Coach Mark Roberts. 2007 marks Mark's eighth season as head coach. In 2002, he received the RMAC's Coach of the Year Award after a season record of 22-26. Coach Roberts accredits their success this season to "great leadership from seniors Beth Skidmore and Brianne Brennan." The coach went on to say; "We've been working and practicing real hard for the competition."

The women's softball team had their first ten games of the season cancelled due to weather, but in the opener, they creamed Colorado College 30 to nothing. The women's team didn't allow a single run on the day as they even beat CC 6-0 on the Night Cap.

Over Spring Break, the women's team traveled to the Tucson Invitational. They worked hard for a record of 5-3 on the trip beating teams like Bethany 11-2 and Benedictine College 10-0. This was an out of conference tournament that put Spring Break to good use.

There are still 24 games left in the season for the women's softball team and ten of them are at home. This gives the perfect opportunity for all you fans to see how well women's softball represents Mines Athletics.

The Orediggers' gets back to action on March 28th at 1pm and 3pm at Regis College in Denver.

March Madness Surprisingly Predictable

Mike Stone
Staff Reporter

For something called "March Madness," it is not that mad in 2007. In years past, basketball playoffs are a time for upsets and big wins. No such thing this year. Yes, games are good and nail-biting at times, but there's no snap! There's no pop! There's not even any crackle!

Of all the teams that made it to the "Sweet Sixteen," the lowest ranked was UNLV at seed 7. All the number one seeds are still in the game. All the number two seeds are still in the game except for Wisconsin, because they lost to UNLV! There's excitement and anticipation, but there's just no excitement or anticipation!

Last year, number three seed Florida won the Championship over number two UCLA 73-57. This was Florida's first win in university history. Anyone can tell you that 2006 was a great year for the Gators, for basketball and even for Cinderella stories!

In 2006, George Mason College was the main focus after several upsets as a number 11 seed. This was a team that no one expected to go anywhere and yet, they beat number six, Michigan St., number three, UNC, number seven, Wichita St., and number 1, UConn to make it to the final four! A number 11 team in the final four!

If you're not a fan of basketball, it's alright, because this doesn't happen in ANY sport let alone NCAA Division I Basketball. George Mason ended up losing to Florida.

Fast forward to 2007 and fans, coworkers and Facebook addicts are filling out their NCAA brackets as RANDOMLY as possible trying to predict the next big underdog. No such luck this year. This year's Final Four includes number 1 seeds Florida and Ohio State and number 2 seeds UCLA and Georgetown. Looks like you lost the pool, buddy. But, hey - there's always hockey!

Several other key events happened this year. One included the absence of Duke in the "Sweet Sixteen." The Blue Devils lost to VCU in the first round 79-77. Losing to VCU meant the first time Duke had lost in the first round since 1996 and it broke a 9-year streak of appearing in the "Sweet Sixteen." This was the second longest in NCAA history.

The next big thing on everyone's mind is whether the Florida Gators can repeat a National Championship this year. If they can pull it off against UCLA and the winner of the Georgetown-Ohio State game, they will become the first school to repeat as champions in 18 years. The only other team to win back-to-back championships in NCAA history was Duke in 1991 and 1992.

No matter how excited or upset you get this year, it will all be said and done on April 2nd when four of the top ranked teams in the nation will battle it out in what is sure to be a couple of games for the record books.

Going for the Record Books...

The University of Florida Gators are trying to become the only other team besides the '91-'92 Duke Blue Devils as repeating as the NCAA Division I national champions.

There is No Joy in Durham...

Duke University is in a transition from being one of the premier tournament teams in college basketball to being on the tournament bubble. This year Duke was handed their first first-round loss since 1996 by 11-seed VCU.

RMAC Conference Woes

CSM Dead Last in Division; 9-16 Overall

Jason Fish
News Editor

Baseball at the Colorado School of Mines is in full swing. The Orediggers spent Spring Break with a full schedule.

As many students headed off for vacation, CSM started a four game conference home series on Friday, March 9 at Darden Field against Colorado State University at Pueblo. This series marked the first time these teams have faced each other this season.

The Thunderwolves took the opener 6-3 behind pitcher Justin Crow (2-1) who pitched 5 1/3 innings for the win.

The Oredigger offense was spearheaded by redshirt freshman catcher Anthony Siderius who went 2-5 with two runs and two RBI. Freshman hurler Chris Rogers took the loss, allowing six runs over 7 2/3 innings.

A double-header continuing the series on Saturday, March 10, ending with two more wins for CSU-Pueblo, 6-2 for the opener and 16-4 (5 innings due to rain) in the nightcap. Strong pitching from the Thunderwolves quieted the Oredigger offense in both outings.

The final game looked to favor CSU-Pueblo with an early 4-1 lead. But Mines came back with runs in the third and fourth innings to capture the advantage 5-4. The Thunderwolves soon tied and the game was drawn out into extra innings. A three-run burst by CSU-Pueblo in the top of the 10th went unanswered for a win and a series sweep of CSM.

After three days rest, the Orediggers stayed in town for a non-conference game against Metro State University on March 14.

Six CSM pitchers kept the Roadrunner hitters unproductive while fanning 10 batters and allowing three runs. Lefty Chad Baudendisel (1-0) one-hit Metro in the fourth and fifth innings to take the win.

Meanwhile, the Oredigger offense handed out 15 hits and tallied 9 runs. The top of the lineup was the main force behind the victory with the first four hitters each having three hits to combine for 12-17.

Running up an 8-0 lead into the fourth, CSM walked out of Darden Field with a 9-3 win.

The last weekend of break, Mines headed out to the University of Nebraska-Kearney for another four game series on March 16, finishing up just in time for classes to resume.

Unfortunately, the conference problems followed CSM west as the first game was dominated by the UNK Lopers 11-2. While the Orediggers struck first, gaining a 1-0 lead in the opening inning, the home team came back with 4 runs in the second and never relinquished the advantage.

Saturday's double-header saw a glimmer of hope for the Orediggers with a strong performance by relief pitcher Matt Thome, who hurled 3 2/3, silencing the Loper bats. Thome allowed no runs, struck out four, and only allowed two hits to cap off the affair for a win. First baseman Mike Deal and third baseman Aaron Gremmer went 5-8 combined, contributing 5 runs to CSM's 8-6 victory.

But Nebraska-Kearney took the nightcap 6-2 and decisively claimed the Sunday match-up with a 15-6 victory. Coming out of the week-long affair, CSM dropped its conference record to 3-8 and 6-15 overall.

Taking the week to recuperate, the Orediggers regrouped to start the weekend with a four game away series against Colorado Christian University.

Kicking off the first of two consecutive double-headers on Friday, March 23, Chris Rogers bounced back from his loss to CSU-Pueblo, allowing only one run while scattering 9 hits over a strong 8 2/3 frames with one strikeout.

The CCU Cougars also sent the nightcap to extra innings with a run in the seventh, but the Orediggers tacked four runs on in the eighth to secure the win.

Saturday's twinbill centered on offense. CSM dropped the opener in a slugfest 17-13, but took the final match-up 9-4 behind freshman redshirt catcher Anthony Siderius, who went 2-4, knocking in five runs. Overall, Mines took 3 of 4 from the Cougars to finish off the road trip.

The Orediggers are now 9-16 overall with a 6-9 record in conference play. They resume games Tuesday, March 27 against Metro State University at home.

Indoor Track Stars Earn All-American Honors at Nats

Courtesy CSM Athletics

Colorado School of Mines senior Larry McDaris earned a pair of All-American honors, while senior Heather Beresford also earned All-American honors at the 2007 NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field National Championships at the Reggie Lewis Center contested Friday and Saturday.

McDaris placed third in the mile run and the 800-meters to earn his All-American status, while Beresford was third in the mile run. It is the third straight year Beresford earned All-American honors in the mile run as she was the runner-up in 2005 and 2006.

McDaris ran 4:06.62 in the mile and 1:50.69 in the 800. His time in the 800 was less than a second behind champion Nick Lara (1:49.73) of Adams State.

Beresford ran a 4:47.86 in the mile. She also competed in the 5,000-meters and finished 13th in 17:18.77.

The meet concluded the indoor season for CSM.

CSM Golf Finishes Tenth at Mustang Invitational

Courtesy CSM Athletics

The Colorado School of Mines golf team placed 10th at the Mustang Invitational hosted by Western New Mexico on Monday and Tuesday at the UNM Championship Course.

Teams played 36 holes on Monday and concluded the tournament with 18 holes on Tuesday.

CSM was led by senior Mark Vallee who tied for 19th place as he shot a three-round total of 228 (74-76-78).

CSM will return to action on Apr. 1-2 when it hosts the CSM Invitational. Teams will play 18 holes on Apr. 1 at Bear Creek Country Club followed by 36 holes the next day at Buffalo Run Golf Course.

Make Your Mark!
Class of 2007 Gift
Colorado School of Mines

Make your mark! Those who donate can leave a handprint on the Senior Gift Canvas, which will be hung in a prominent building on campus.

Weds, March 28th, 11-2
Kafadar Commons
(free lunch!)

Have you heard of the Senior Class of 2007 Gift but want to know more about it? Well...plan to attend the

Senior Class of 2007 Gift Kick-Off Event!!

ASCSM and the Office of Institutional Advancement

THE OREDIGGER

Editorials

Editorials Policy

The Oredigger is a designated public forum. Student editors have the authority to make all content decisions without censorship or advance approval.

oredig@mines.edu

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Impact of the Blogosphere

How the Internet Has Revolutionized *and* Destroyed the True News

Zach Aman
Editorials Editor

So often, one is encapsulated by the novelty of an emerging tree. In its birth, the surrounding forest can sometimes vanish and render the beholder helplessly alone.

The emergence of the blogosphere has set in motion a chain of events that have led to the collapse of the classical newspaper. Whilst this may be of no importance to some, it has, and shall continue to, tremendously impacted the way in which citizens access and understand information.

As with the emerging tree, these new channels of information have captured the interest of the average reader and simultaneously reduced the importance of the printed news. Across the country, newspapers have been eliminating staff and reducing distribution to establish temporary economic stability.

If the emerging channels were equal in quality to the printed news, we would call this progress. Unfortunately, Americans are no longer paying for on-demand information in dollars, but rather in sense. By going to internet blogs for news and opinion, they are inherently equating the flippant outlook of partisan scribbler to the informed reporting of an established journalist; they are sacrificing sentience for convenience. Perhaps, in a world ruled by the almighty chronograph, it would be healthy to sit down with a cup of coffee and spare fifteen minutes to page through different snapshots of the human condition; what's more, it might be enlightening.

This judgment by no means invalidates the right of an internet journalist to an opinion. Rather, let it be stated that many individuals, in their haste, fail to pause and consider the information that such opinions are based on. The blogger may consciously choose to cite information or empirically support conclusions; a print journalist does not enjoy the same luxury. Unfortunately, blogs are not required to carry disclaimers on this basis.

> *"Americans are no longer paying for on-demand information in dollars, but rather in sense."*

While these internet sources may be more sensational than traditional avenues, one must inquire as to why. The fact remains that internet companies are easily created and easily destroyed – an income sheet hangs in the balance. If sites have no traffic, they have no income.

Thus, the need for sensational internet journalism is self-perpetuating in the blogosphere. Ironically, we realize that true snapshots of the human condition are typically monotonous. True information, such as that found in an engineering textbook, is anything but stimulating. As such, traditional newspapers are intrinsically disadvantaged when it comes to competition for readership.

As America progresses into the twenty-first century, she must be ever watchful of her information sources. Internet blogs may be fascinating, but if citizens are searching for that old-fashioned integrity in the news they read, they don't need search any further than their local newspaper.

Just Stop Talking...

Andrew Aschenbrenner
Entertainment Editor

Once again, this is in no way suggests that the people mentioned have no right to say what they said. Free speech is the greatest element of this country, and all forms must be allowed, however threatening.

Recently, the Department of Justice/Antonio Gonzales prosecutor-firing scandal has taken over politics, and it has spelled more bad news for Republicans. Just what the GOP needs, another top-level embarrassment to follow Walter Reed, Jack Abramoff, Mark Foley, Iraq, Valerie Plame, the Hurricane Katrina response, and Halliburton. It doesn't help Mr. Gonzales that he worked for President Bush as his lawyer before becoming Attorney General. First, Gonzales insisted he was not involved, and then proof showed that he was. Since the controversy started several weeks ago over the firing of eight U.S. Attorneys, internal DOJ memos have showed the firings to be politically motivated, and have also put Gonzales on the hot seat. White House assertions that they had nothing to do with the firings have been falsified by certain memos. One email from the DOJ in 2005 advocated keeping prosecutors who were "loyal Bushies." Sorry, Mr. President, but this is NOT your playground. The bottom line is, the Attorney General is supposed to represent law in the U.S. Antonio Gonzales has been nothing but a White House pawn, and trivializing the laws of this country in the name of politics is unconscionable. Republicans often describe Gonzales' running of the Department of Justice as "incompetent." Apparently, it is also an extension of the White House, where hypocrisy reigns. Enough said.

So sad is the state of the GOP that Time magazine ran a picture of a crying Ronald Reagan behind the headline "How the Right Went Wrong" for their March 26 issue. Lawmakers, both Republican and Democratic, have suggested that impeachment is possible when confronted with the administration's view that they are all powerful. Senator Chuck Hagel, R-NE, said; "This is not a monarchy." Most notable has been the formation of the American Freedom Agenda, an alliance of four conservatives, including former U.S. Representative Bob Barr, a chairperson at the American Conservative Union. The group's website (www.americanfreedomagenda.org) states part of their mission as restoring "the Constitution's checks and balances as enshrined by the Founding Fathers." It also notes; "The constitutional grievances against the White House are chilling, reminiscent of the kingly abuses that provoked the Declaration of Independence." Those are some strong words. Ultimately, we are where we are today because the monkey in the Executive Branch has decided that he is the decider, thereby insulting all of America.

Turning from the massive train wreck that is the Bush administration, we find Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Peter Pace in the news. Pace called homosexuality "immoral" two weeks ago, and received a pretty vocal response. As for me, I don't much care what Pace thinks when it comes to his personal views. The problem is, he used the "immoral" claim to back "don't ask, don't tell." General Pace, you can think whatever you want, but when you criticize homosexuality as "immoral behavior" in a work environment, you are hurting your troops. There are tens of thousands of gay and lesbian soldiers in the military, and it doesn't help any of them serve the country when you denounce them as people. It also doesn't get you anywhere with millions of other potential GLBT soldiers. Over 10,000 troops have been discharged since "don't ask, don't tell" went into effect in 1994, many of them specialists such as Arabic linguists. Now, when your military needs your support, is not the time to alienate them. Nice job, General Pace.

Finally, we have the Pope. Looked to by millions of Catholics for inspiration and guidance, he heeded the call Saturday with an alarm for Europe. Benedict XVI warned against losing faith, risking economic growth, and dropping birth rates. Those are all fine, but he also warned against "dangerous individualism." Uh, yeah. I understand that he was a Hitler youth, but that's no excuse to reintroduce Fascist ideals to the world. Maybe he's referring to ego. Either way, a speech effectively calling individuality dangerous is not a good sign. Too bad, things were going so well with Pope John Paul II.

I guess I'm glad that people say dumb stuff. Sure, it causes pain and discomfort, but it makes things interesting. It's fun when you mix things up. A sense of humor is a must, because it's usually the people who take things too seriously that need to just stop talking.

Duffy's Corner

Kevin Duffy
Staff Writer

The students of the Colorado School of Mines have the privilege of casting a vote in the ASCSM elections this week. The privilege derives from the ability to choose, to participate, to effect change in the institution we call home. With this ability to choose comes great responsibility. While the turn-out of this years election has yet to be tallied, traditionally around 30% of the student body will cast a vote. As active members in the CSM community we have an obligation to stand up and let our voice be heard.

Political apathy plagues the mind with thoughts of insignificance. Many are content to sit on the sidelines and refuse to participate; simply because they feel their right to be heard will be denied. However the problem facing participatory government seems to run much deeper. Politics of any sort seemingly carry no interest in today's culture.

The said reality is that more people could tell you the names of the last four contestants easier than they could the last four American Presidents. In fact, American Idol presents the bizarre paradox of voter participation. The show regularly reaches over 30 million viewers sending in upwards of 75 million votes per episode. All the while voter turn-out in real elections continues to plummet, especially in the 18 to 25 year old demographic that Idol targets. One school of thought argues this phenomenon as the, "American Idol culture," that our society has slipped into. Public spectacle and sensationalism rule the day, leaving people with little time for serious contemplation.

Sure Idol delivers a certain entertainment value that CNN may arguably not. Nevertheless, your participation in a civil election decides considerably more than who goes on to the next round of karaoke. You decide the direction of your community.

The Mines community presents us all with the unique opportunity of political and civil participation. The school is small, the campus is small. In turn the issues are real and the decisions affect us all. The students of CSM have more say in what happens on campus then many realize. Complaints and observations we joke about between peers are often the birth of school-wide changes. We can never allow ourselves to fall into the trap of belligerent inaction. Only when we contribute to the dialogue do our concerns become valid.

So the straightforward question becomes, will *you* be voting this year? You, the individual, the Colorado School of Mines scholar, have the ability to voice your opinion and shape the progress of your community. Exercise your right.

Thoughts from Yesterday

It was the summer of 1959 and most of it had been spent on the end of a 70 pound jackhammer participating in the "birth" of I 95 in Bangor, Maine... And I was about to begin an experience that would be even more difficult but a lot more rewarding than the pounding of pavement I had withstood for more than three months.

September 01 arrived and soon I was off for the Bangor airport… a diminutive terminal on an endless runway shared with Dow Airforce Base. The aircraft of the day was a DC 3 that made it to New York City and the awaiting Lockheed Super G Constellation and a non stop flight to Denver…. legal age at that time was 18 in New York and a Bud seemed to make sense for someone from a small town in the woods of Maine about to take on an educational experience without equal.

And an education it turned out to be… one that did not come easy... but with the seemingly endless hours of study came rewards that could only be found at CSM and in Golden.

It all started with the hike up Lookout Mountain with a 10 pound rock for the annual white wash job, the gauntlet, surveying up "repeat hill", Duds and the Ace High, summer courses, the Staggering M Band, freshman physics, Dean Burger, the clay pits, The Beta Hawaiian party complete with a truck load of sand shoveled into the cellar of the old long gone Barn, hog tied and dumped on the Quad of the Air Force Academy in ROTC attire, a bit of Mines football, a rollover courtesy of a Saudi friend driving us back from a beer blast in Clear Creek Canyon, and I must not forget Norabell…

One of the many particularly rewarding experiences from my days at Mines was the opportunity to serve as editor of The Oredigger… there wasn't much time for the TV that did exist and the Mines student paper got plenty of attention…Some called those of us at Mines technological barbarians… supposedly because of the concentration of engineering courses… they doubted we could even write, spell, or publish a regular student paper… they just didn't get it, and those of you who do so today, continue a tradition of getting it done with a sense of pride and understanding for what a real college education entails…..

Go Get It !

Sincerely,
John Feeley, Met. E

Letters to the Editor

Dear CSM,

I am personally outraged at the positive marijuana references within the February 21st issue of our Oredigger. It is bad enough that pot has found it's way into mainstream media, but we do not need to be advocating getting high at our University = Place of Learning. At minimum, marijuana has no place within engineering. Really! 'Let's get high and build a forty million dollar space craft and crash land it into Mars because we screwed up our unit conversions.' Even better, 'let's smoke up and do fuzzy math like Bush.'

Soon, you too, will be looking for Weapons of Mass Destruction up your butt, finding yourself six-trillion deep in a deficit. Come on people! Two cool references to weed in one Oredigger section, totally unnecessary! A parallel: The 40 Year Old Virgin; It must be a mines geek classic. Totally hilarious, but had random Rasta references, why?

Take those mini scenes out of the movie and it is still the same freaking funny movie about a geek who finally gets it on and he's a stud. And remember, he's the one who passes on the doobie late in the movie. But, for some stupid reason, they glorify pot just like our Oredigger Editors. Studies show marijuana isn't mega-physically dangerous like alcohol or crack-cocaine, but pot does lower sperm count, induce stupidity and laziness, impair decision making abilities, and kill brain cells (which never regenerate). Does anyone do their engineering homework high? Anyone who has smoked recently has; the facts are that marijuana has a half-life of 28 days. The THC that gets you high stays in your system and builds up with repeated use. You may not feel high the next day, but the fuzz is with you. It'll skew your calculations, short your safety factors, and you can't fake the grades forever. Forget about pg 15 on how to dress to get a girl. (Except the teeth brushing and showering stuff, that's muy mucho importante.)

You want a girl? Don't smoke weed! 'Pot head for life' is like being dependant on your parents forever. That's where your money will go, you'll have shady friends when your college connections end, and no respectable women is going to want your dumb baby from your numb sperm. Pot heads aren't good providers and you're s-l-o-w. I personally want someone witty, who get's up off their video game butt and takes me to the CSM geology museum. I want to laugh at geek jokes and look at rocks. I want to talk about changing the world and you Google some crazy philosopher to show you care. So you are a total nerd now and I can't be seen with you in public. Of course you don't look like Matt Damon, but if you were a cool brain like Will Hunting, I'd make sure you'd hit hot, by showering with you everyday and licking your teeth clean every night. Who cares what alignment your shirt stripes are when your shirt is off! You culture a beautiful brain and I'll start dressing you right. Besides, we're all geeks here (with few exceptions); we were never mainstream fashion, so why start now? The minute we open our mouths it is evident that we do not blend with the bland brained. Einstein had his hair and you have your rolls, whatever!

Just KNOW, you are not going to get a sexy brain sitting in front of your damn TV smokin' the ganja. You'll only prove 'stupid is as stupid does' and, to anyone that matters, fade away like yesterday.

Sincerely,
Pretty/Smart
(A female CSM student)

Dear Pretty/Smart,

I will agree that marijuana is a bane of our society, but let me point out a few things. First off, lowering sperm count would prevent unwanted pregnancies, slow population growth and make the rest of us with a "full count" look better. Also, if more people were in a state of induced "stupidity and laziness," society would have a lower crime rate and reduced incidences of domestic violence.

In all seriousness, you seem stressed and I think you might have suffered heartbreak that involved your significant other using drugs illictly. What you need is to sit down, take a deep breath, hold it in and then let all the smo...air out of your lungs. Relaxing and slouching while you munch on cheese balls and watch cartoons from the 1950's should put you mind and ambitions at rest, if only for a moment.

Sincerely,
Chase Hoffman
Asst. Head Editor-in-Chief

Fool's Gold

Alcohol FreE-Days

By Adam Freeland
Historian Ordinaire

The Safar-E-Days theme has proven to be less of a hit than was desired. This, coupled with major dissatisfaction on the package pricing and limited quantities has lead the E-Days committee to officially re-designate this year's festivities as "Alcohol FreE-Days"

The idea has been proposed numerous times in years past. The group MADD (Mother's Against Drunk Driving) proposed the idea about eight years ago to curb the copious alcohol consumption that has traditionally been tied to E-Days. It has not succeeded in years past due to overwhelming support for other themes. Last year MADD gave up, and has since been boycotting our fair campus. This led a small group to break off from MADD and form SMCFP (Segregate Mothers and Concubines For Prohibition), in order to push their radical ideas.

This year is different. No one has showed any support for the old Safar-E-Days. With this lack of party cohesion, SMCFP has stepped in and won the day. Alcohol Fre-E-Days is now a reality. The school has returned all money that Coors has donated and replaced its sponsorship with a group of various Root-Beer companies. In a last ditch effort, Coors has petitioned to have its "Near-Beer" be served at the events.

With this drastic change, the student body's reaction is still unknown. It is believed thought that the Coors Short Tour rates will go through the roof as the campus goes dry. SMCFP has dubbed those who will attend the short tours "Deserters."

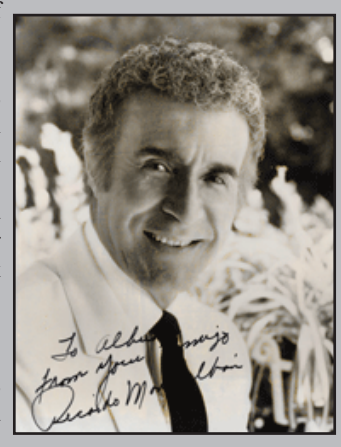
Adam Freeland/Oredigger
Set and Sober, this student is ready to party hard, well at least he can try.

Delicious Delicacies

By Adam Freeland
Le gustan tacos y burritos

On Super Bowl Sunday, Taco Bell released what has come to be the pinnacle of non-hamburger related fast food dining. It has brought Taco Bell back to the height of its glory years, those of the "Yo Quiero Taco Bell" Dog.

These Taquitos are no ordinary run of the mill frozen Ortega taquitos. They are grilled fresh from real flour tortillas with steak and cheese. The recent lion commercials have lead to widespread rumors that each one is hand wrapped by Ricardo Montalbán himself.



Taco Bell knew that making the greatest taquitos ever wasn't enough. They went above and beyond by providing the most delicious sour cream dipping sauce. For all the inferior peoples of the earth, they have even offered salsa and guacamole.

Just like every great prime rib needs its wine, these taquitos need a liquid companion. That liquid companion is none other than Mountain Dew Baja Blast, available only at Taco Bell. This blue wonder liquid flows plentifully from the fountains to quench the thirst of those that truly know what it is to dine well.

School Institutes New Companionship Center, Applications Up 5000%

By Bruce Bugbee and Chris Phillips
Resident Ho-xperts

The Colorado School of Mines proudly announced the next step in their multi-year campus revitalization plan this week with the unveiling of the first state-owned brothel in the history of Colorado.

The Colorado School of Mines campus has been torn apart by construction for the past couple years as part of the administrations plan to improve campus life. The most glaring project undertaken by the school is the construction of the new Student Recreation Center that is to be adjacent to the Ben Parker Student Center. This project is designed to alleviate the congestion faced at the current athletic facilities of Volk Gymnasium and the Steinhauer Field House.

The Recreation Center has come under fire as of late due to the seemingly continual pushing back of the opening day due to construction problems and bad weather. Instead of waiting for the Rec. Center to be complete, the school administration recently announced plans to convert the aging Weaver Towers residence halls into what they are affectionately dubbing a "companionship center."

No major construction will take place at Weaver Towers, with the exception of minor interior redesign to accommodate various poles, video camera mounts, hot tubs, mechanical bulls, and vibrating heart-shaped beds.

The renovations will take place this summer after classes release and will actually be apart of a joint venture between local brothel Madame Kimay's House of Pleasure and the EPICS Department that will allow students the chance to participate in the change and earn EPICS II credit.

The name of the center will be changed from Weaver Towers to the more fitting "Sexual Wellness Center". The building will be divided into three sections with the main lobby acting as the booking and reception area, the West tower acting as the "Classy Victorian" section, and the East tower housing both the "S&M Dungeon" and the "Gutter Tramp Central" areas. This is to play off of an already present attitude that the East tower is a lot dirtier than the West tower.

The administration's new plan is not going into effect without a much anticipated debate being sparked. Local activists and crazy people alike feel that the idea of a state-sponsored brothel will somehow degrade the moral nature of the students and the community. Pam Goodwin, leader of the Mother's Against Prostitute Services group (MAPS), recently said, "It is just a horrible idea! My son goes to Mines to study, not for girls! He is only 23. He is way too young to be thinking about sex."

Weaver Towers Residence Halls at the Colorado School of Mines.

Regardless of the limited local outcry, both Republicans and Democrats are pushing the project through the state budget committees. Andrew Ernings, the spokesperson for the Politicians Insisting on Making Prostitution Sustainable, Legal, and Profitable (PIMPSLAP), "This is really the best idea to hit the state legislature in decades. Who would have thought that a proposal favoring prostitution would be the issue that ends the partisan bickering that has been going on."

With the project being fast-tracked through the legislature, the CSM administration is confident that the project will be ready by the beginning of the Fall 2007 semester. The Sexual Wellness Center will be open to all CSM student's, faculty, and employees. Accordingly, CSM freshman applications have jumped 5000% over last year's numbers.

Apart from normal carnal fare that can be expected at a brothel, the Sexual Wellness Center will employee staff trained to cater to the unique needs of many of the CSM student body. This includes full body masseuses that are masters of Physics I and II CAPA problems, tantric yoga instructors with a working knowledge of Quantitative Lab procedures, and role-playing school girls that have level 67 Night Elf Rogues that will tease and help students through World of Warcraft dungeons.

Due to the anticipation of an extremely high usage level from the student body, the administration is authorizing students to work at Sexual Wellness Center, earning both work-study money and PA credit.

The completion of the Sexual Wellness Center will be the first in many steps by the CSM administration in revitalizing the campus life of Mines. For more information please see the project coordinator at the corner of Colfax and Wadsworth between the hours of 11pm and 2am. Meeting are by walk-in only and require a driver's license and twenty dollars.

Fool's Gold

Top 10 Rejected Themes for E-Days

10. Benito Mussolin-E Days
9. Faulty Memor-E Days
8. Plausible Deniabilit-E Days
7. Herp-E Days
6. Let's Get Swirve-E Days
5. Potpourr-E Days
4. Illegitmate Bab-E Days
3. Bourgeoisi-E Days
2. Pay Your Alimon-E Days
1. Be Thankful You Aren't an Ampute-E Days

Lacrosse Spring Break Trip Ends in Scandal

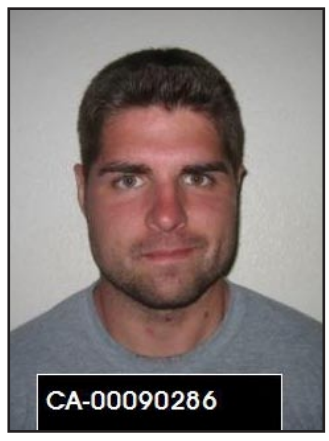
By Mike Stone
Scandal Aficionado

Head Coach of the Mines Men's Lacrosse Team was arrested while on a Spring Break Trip to California with the team. On the night of Mar. 15th Dan Hunter was arrested on suspicion of pimping.

"These charges are ridiculous," stated Hunter. "I was merely walking on the beach and the police picked me up." Dan is in his third year of being the head coach of the club lacrosse team.

Police reported that the 27 year-old Hunter had picked up some 16 year-old girls at a local Taco Bell after impressing them by taking 2nd place in a Grande Meal Challenge. He then invited them into his van, drove them to the beach and told them: "Get to work, ladies."

The two under age girls reportedly ran off and found the bike police. After getting a statement, the bikers chased the coach down. It was noted that Dan Hunter screamed: "The Hunter is now the hunted!" during the chase. After a thrilling pursuit, the bikers tackled and shackled Hunter in front of a 3rd grade Sunday School class.

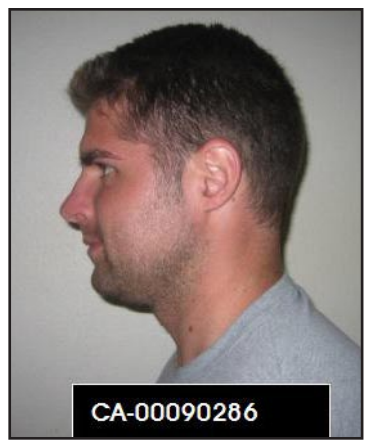


Mike Stone/Oredigger

On bail of $3000, Hunter is unable to leave the state of California. An informant on the lacrosse team stated Hunter will spend the time until his court date panhandling in front of the local In-N-Out Burger.

Team President, Scott O'Connor, released an official statement saying; "The team stands by Hunter's side and will do so until any evidence is shown that he is guilty. If he is indeed guilty of these charges, we'll probably abandon him in his time of need." Dan Hunter's court date is April 9th, 2007.

If you want to catch any of the exciting follow up to this story, come to Mines Lacrosse's next game, Friday, Mar. 23rd at 6pm at the IM Fields.



Mike Stone/Oredigger

Spring Break or Spring Death?

By Mike Stone
Chief Documentation Engineer

Over the past 30 years, "Spring Break" has grown from a traditional festival of relaxation and sleep to a party hard, accident ridden, drunken debauchery. Is this the natural progression of generations of college students? Or is it a government conspiracy designed to control the population due to large increases in illegal immigration? It has been discovered by the recent release of old government documents that this is the case.

Initiated by the incoming President, Jimmy Carter, the plan was simple: cause regular, unsuspecting college students to drink more and more until an "accident" occurs, after which there is no hope of future life. With college graduate numbers decreasing, the population would remain stable and the American work force would have better job security.

Fast-forward 30 years and the initiative has more power than ever. Whether a Republican or Democratic President, steps have increased with each term. It is estimated that over 500,000 illegal immigrants pass into the United States every year, and alcohol related college deaths have increased by thirteen percent every year.

College students in Florida and Cancun are "accidentally" passing away by falling off of balconies or over-dosing on alcohol. The truth is that they were pushed or poisoned by secret government agents. These were the same agents used in the cover-up of the Kennedy assassination.

If anyone reading this article seeks proof, just ask the friends around if they drank over Spring Break. If the answer is "Yes" then they are in the middle of the largest government conspiracy that anyone has ever seen on the face of this planet.

Mike Stone/Oredigger
Direct evidence of one of the biggest conspiracies in U.S. History or just party favors from a shin-dig in Puerta Vallarta?

Veggie Monster?

Anonymous Tip
Unknown Credential

First PBS announced that "Sesame Street" would kick off its 35th season this week with a multiyear story arc about healthy habits. No problem there: childhood obesity rates are soaring. Then I learned of changes that turned my "Sesame Street" world upside-down.

My beloved blue, furry monster -- who sang "C is for cookie, that's good enough for me" -- is now advocating eating healthy. There's even a new song -- "A Cookie Is a Sometimes Food," where Cookie Monster learns there are "anytime" foods and "sometimes" foods.

Television producers worked with health experts and politicians to create a place where Cookie Monster does care about his health, and by association, the health of children. On the Sesame Street Web site, little had changed. There was Cookie Monster, in all his blue furriness. He was holding a plate of cookies. He was chomping on a cookie. He still looked the same. But, as we all know, looks can be deceiving.

Dr. Rosemarie T. Truglio, the show's vice president of research and education said the show changes every year, focusing not just on teaching numbers and letters but also emotional and physical health. With the rise in childhood obesity, Truglio said "Sesame Street" is concentrating on the need to teach children about healthy foods and physical activity.

This season, each episode opens with a "health tip" about nutrition, exercise, hygiene and rest.

Truglio said "Sesame Street" also will introduce new characters, such as talking eggplants and carrots, and offer parodies, such as "American Fruit Stand." Even guest stars will address healthy activities, such as Alicia Keys talking and singing about the importance of physical activity.

Even politicians have gotten into the act, filming public service announcements with "Sesame Street" residents. In one taping, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist taught Elmo to exercise -- jumping up and down. In another, Sen. Hillary Clinton and the small red monster discuss the various textures and tastes of foods.

"Even Cookie Monster is learning to control his cookie cravings," Frist told me by e-mail. "His sage advice opened our eyes to the simple joys of a tasty cookie and now reminds us that moderation is the key to healthy living."

Cookie Monster was not available for comment.

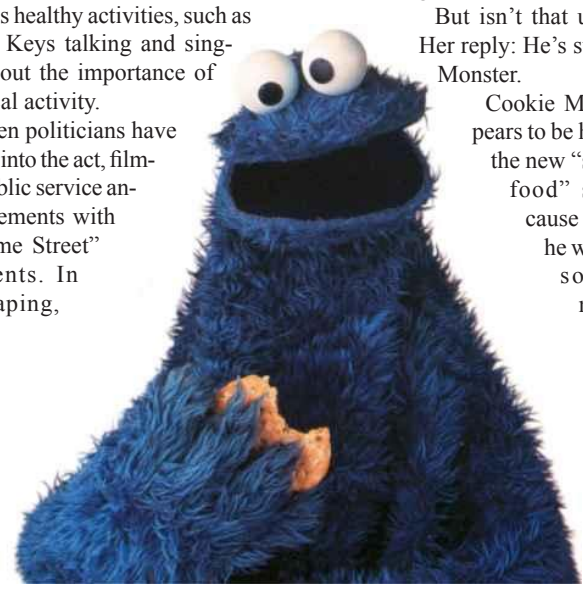
"We are not putting him on a diet," said his spokesman, Truglio. "And we would never take the position of no sugar. We're teaching him moderation."

The furry one also plans to try different kinds of cookies rather than his just staple, chocolate chip.

But will he still scarf his food? Yes, plus the occasional object, Truglio said.

But isn't that unhealthy? Her reply: He's still Cookie Monster.

Cookie Monster appears to be happy with the new "sometimes food" song, because at the end he warbles: "Is sometimes now?"



Champ Shirt Design Contest

Rec Sports is hosting a design contest for next year's IM Champion T-Shirt!

Ever wanted to design the hottest shirt on campus?

Contact JKHoward@mines.edu with questions. All designs must have IM (or Intramural) Champion 2007-2008 somewhere in the design. Winner will receive $50 to the CSM Bookstore and the first shirt of the year!

Designs are due by Friday, April 13

Mines Dominates Basketball Tourney

Congratulations: Zack Akin (captain), Bryan Carruthers, Sam Cooper, Pete Gronewoller, Mike Landers and Nick Landers for their strong showing at the National Intramural Recreational Sports Association (NIRSA) Region 5 Extramural Basketball Tournament on March 16 - 18 at the University of Missouri, Columbia!

In the first game, Mines matched up against the second best intramural team from the University of Missouri. The game was close throughout. Mike Landers last second shot rimmed out forcing overtime. In overtime it came down to a last second shot again. This time, Mike's shot banked in as time expired giving CSM a 2 point win.

The second game, Mines squared off against the champions from Arkansas Tech. They were no match for us, as Mines cruised to a 36 point win.

The third game of the day had Mines facing the champions from the University of Nebraska. This game went back and forth and would again come down to the wire. With the score tied and 5 seconds on clock, Nebraska missed a free throw. Bryan Carruthers came down with the rebound, raced down court and banked a shot in before the buzzer sounded. After the officials reviewed the play, the basket counted and Mines pulled out another 2 point win.

After very questionable seeding, Mines matched up against Mizzou's championship team that featured an ex-varsity player. This game was also very close throughout! Unfortunately, there were not any last second heroics as Mines fell 55-54.

We had little respect coming into the tournament, but we earned everyone's respect before we left.

They did a fantastic job representing our school at the tournament, so please help me in giving them well deserved congratulations!

Courtesy of Rec Sports.
Front row (kneeling) Left to Right: Mike Landers, Bryan Carruthers, Sam Cooper.
Back row (standing) Left to Right: Nick Landers, Zack Akin, Pete Gronewoller, John Howard.

Upcoming Club Sport Games

Thu. 4/5 7pm
Lacrosse

Sat. 3/31 2pm
Men's Rugby

Sat. 4/14 10am
Women's Rugby

Sat. 4/14 2pm
Men's Rugby

Sat. 4/21 12pm
Women's Rugby

Sat. 4/21 2pm
Lacrosse